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Ann Arbor Observer

February 2014

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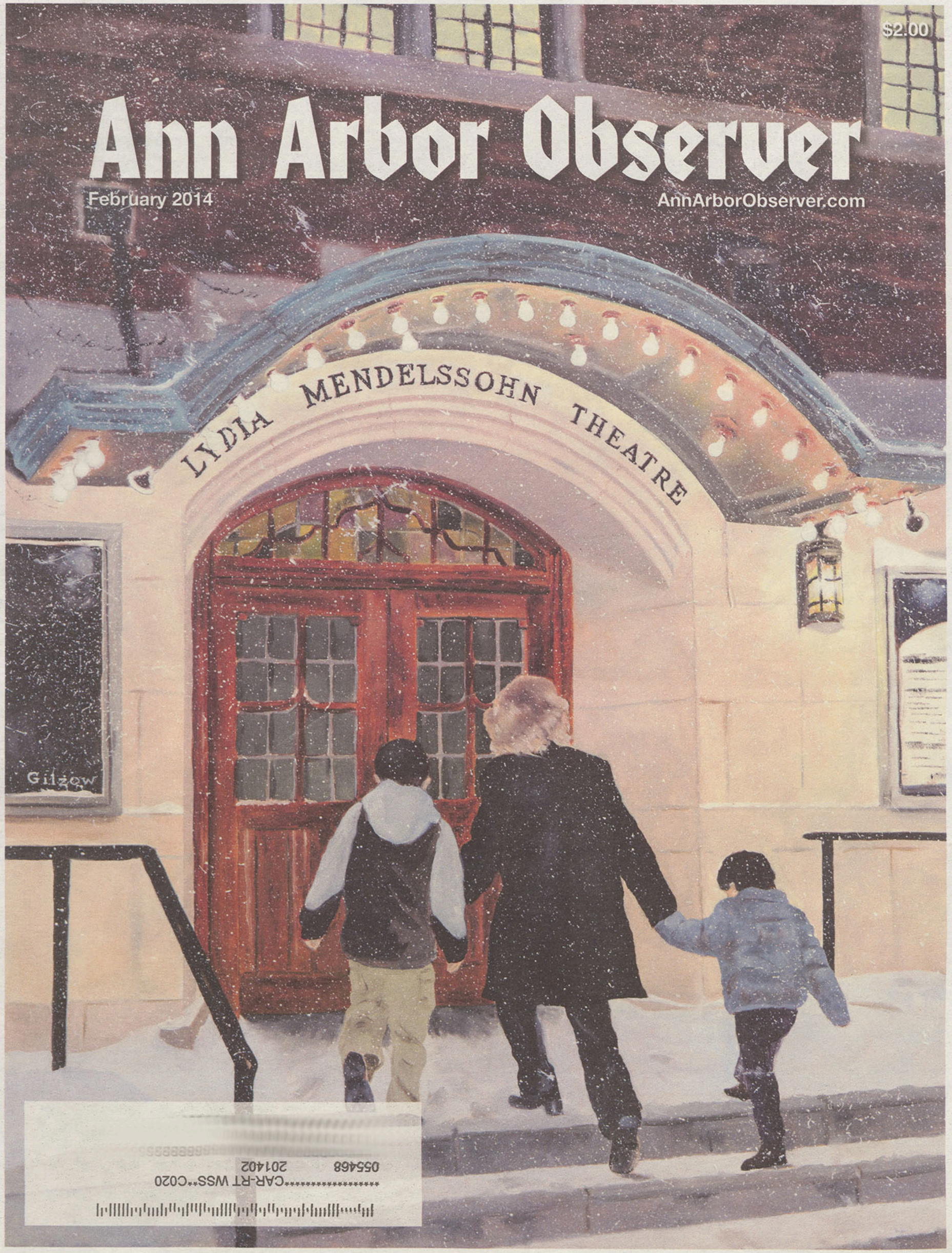

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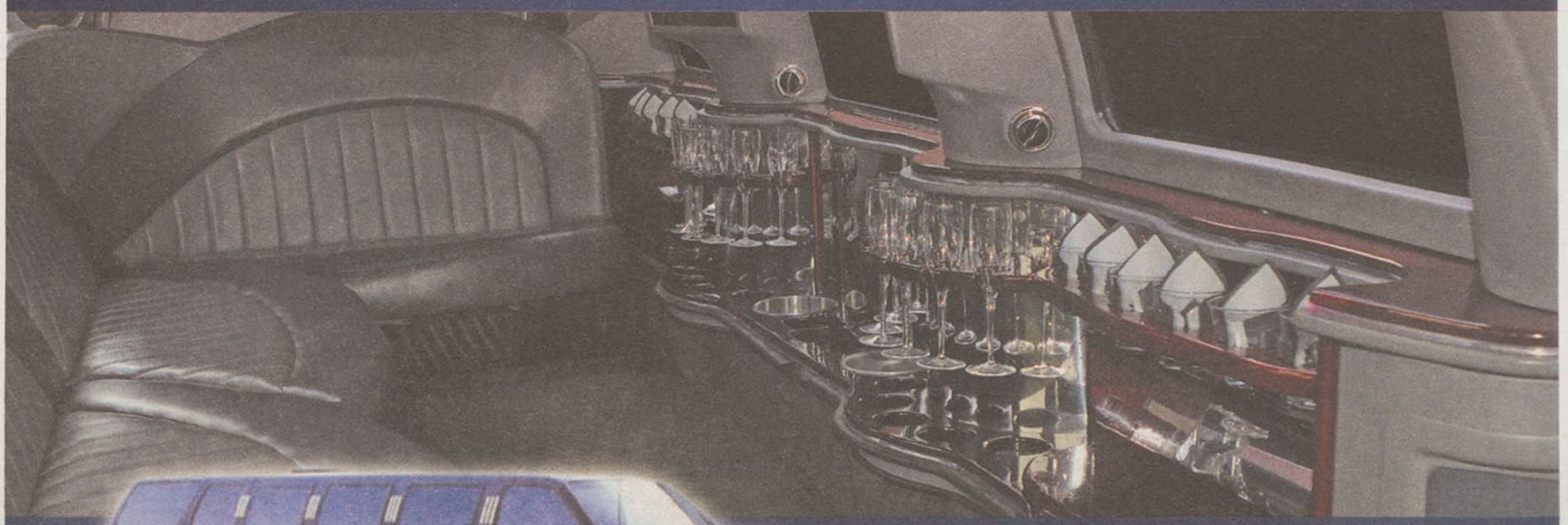

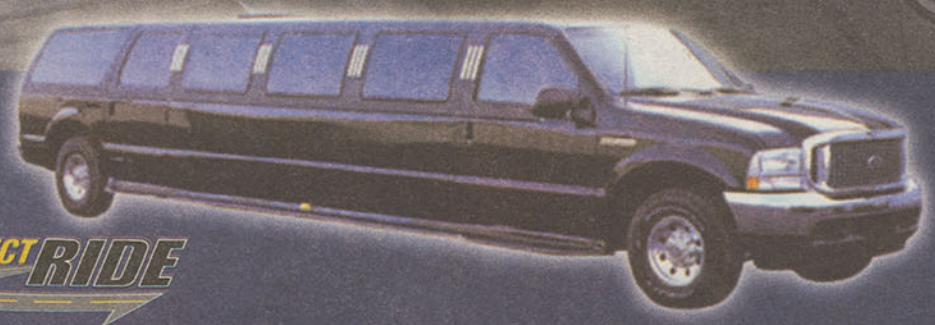

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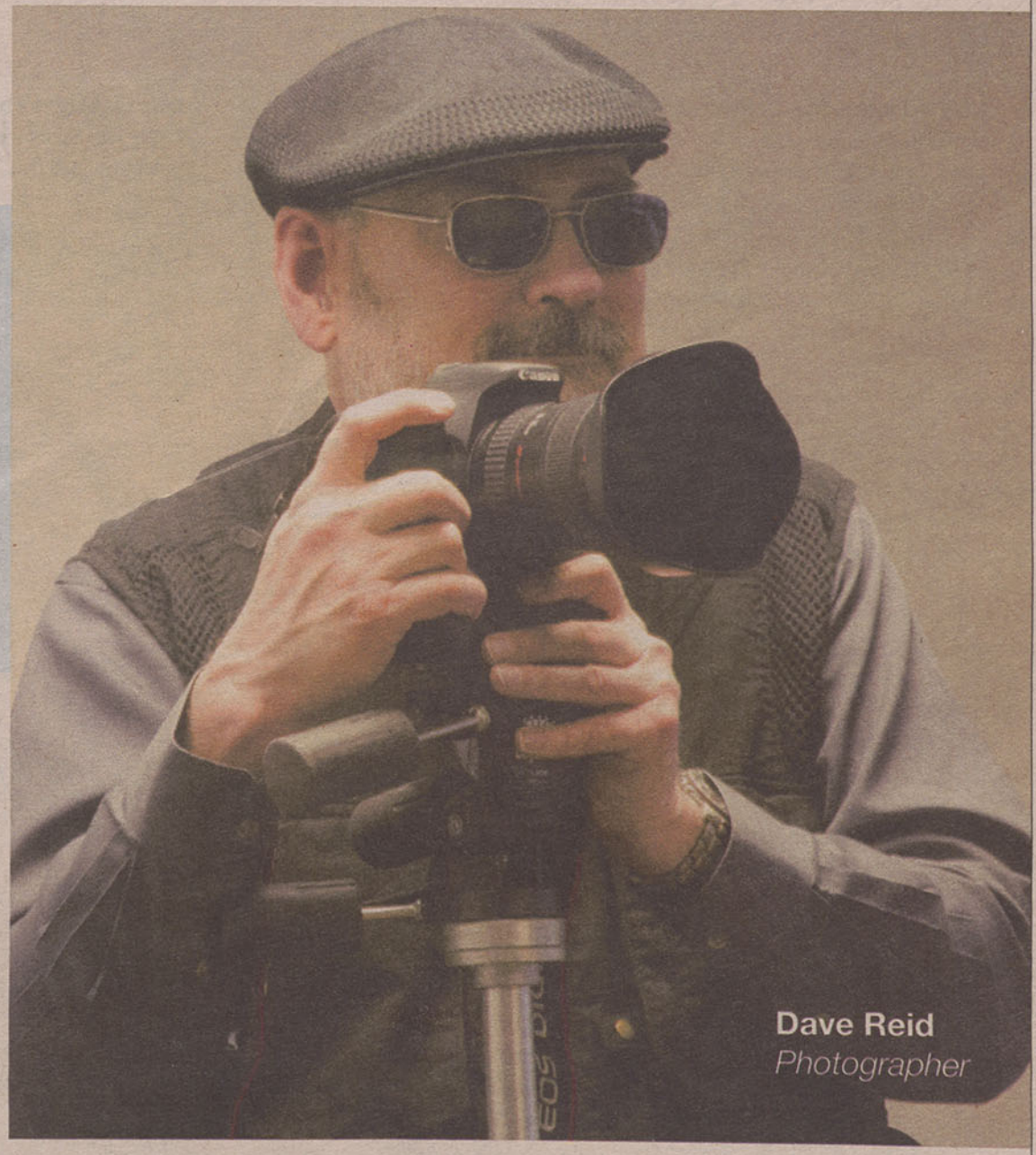

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February: So much to do in the Ann Arbor parks

Registration is underway for summer day camps in the Ann Arbor parks. Our five camps offer swimming, canoeing, golfing, science, crafts and more. Details: www.a2gov.org/camps. To register: www.a2gov.org/parks. Enjoy a $20 discount if you register by March 15 for Buhr or Fuller Park Pool Day Camps.

Dive-in Movie at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks St. inside Ann Arbor Open School). Join us Saturday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. for our next dive-in movie series showing: Despicable Me 2! Adults, $5; kids, $4 and ages 3 & under are free w/paid adult. Call for details 734.794.6237.

Ann Arbor Farmers Market (315 Detroit St.) is open Saturdays, 8 a.m.to 3 p.m. Details: 734.794.6255 / www.a2gov.org/market.

Splash Days at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks St. inside Ann Arbor Open School). Splash Days are a Sunday afternoon of special games, activities and prizes both in and out of the pool. Join us from 2 to 4 p.m. All activities and prizes are included in the cost of admission. Feb. 9, 23. See you there! Call for details 734.794.6237.

American Red Cross Swim Lessons at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks St. inside Ann Arbor Open School), Session 3.Group lessons are offered for children ages six months through adult beginners. Tuesdays, now through – March 4 (no class Feb. 18); Saturdays, now through – March 8 (no class Feb. 22); Sundays, Now through – March 9 (no class Feb. 23). Call 734.794.6237 to register or for additional information visit www.a2gov.org/mack.

Water Aerobics at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks St. inside Ann Arbor Open School). You'll experience the fun of a water exercise program including low-impact aerobic conditioning, stretching and strengthening. Fees: $55 resident/$70 nonresident. Call 734.794.6237 to register or for additional information visit www.a2gov.org/mack. Session 3: Tuesdays, now through – March 4 (no class Feb. 18), 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays, now through – March 8 (no class Feb. 22), 9 to 10 a.m. and 10 to 11 a.m.

Funky Frosty Friday at Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena (2751 Packard Rd.). The first Friday of each month during general skate from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. Skate to themed music/dress up to win prizes for best costume! Feb. 7: Hoedown Skate. Bring your cowboy hats and skate to country western originals. For details call 734.794.6234 or visit www.a2gov.org/buhr.

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Buhr public skating schedule: Our public skating sessions include: Sunday, 3:15 to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. (half price and broom ball); Wednesday, 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. (half price and broom ball) and 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.; Saturday, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. For details call 734.794.6234 or visit www.a2gov.org/buhr.

Learn to skate and beginner hockey lessons at Veterans Memorial Indoor Ice Arena. (2150 Jackson Rd.) It's not too late to sign up for Session #3 while you're enjoying watching the 2014 Winter Olympics! Jan. 27 to March 22 (8 classes). $72 resident/$90 nonresident. All skill levels welcome. Register online www.a2gov.org/vets or call 734.794.6235.

Holiday Vacation Skating at Veterans Indoor Ice Arena (2150 Jackson Rd.) during Ann Arbor Public schools break: Feb. 17 – 11:10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Feb. 18 – 11 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.; Feb. 19 – 11:10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.; Feb. 20 – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Feb. 21 – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For details call 734.794.6235 or visit www.a2gov.org/vets.

Holiday Vacation Skating at Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena (2751 Packard Rd.) during Ann Arbor Public Schools break: Feb. 17 to 21 from 12 to 2 p.m.

Join us Sunday, Feb. 23 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. for the **Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Cultural Arts Series: "Michigan Mania"** a talk by historian Susan Nenadic at the Ann Arbor Senior Center (1320 Baldwin Ave.). Susan has uncovered many fascinating old images and anecdotes about early family life in Michigan, which she shares in her talk. Pre-registration is recommended. $5 general admission. $4 for 60 years and older. Free for Ann Arbor Senior Center members and children 12 and under if accompanied by an adult. To reserve a seat, please call 734.794.6250.

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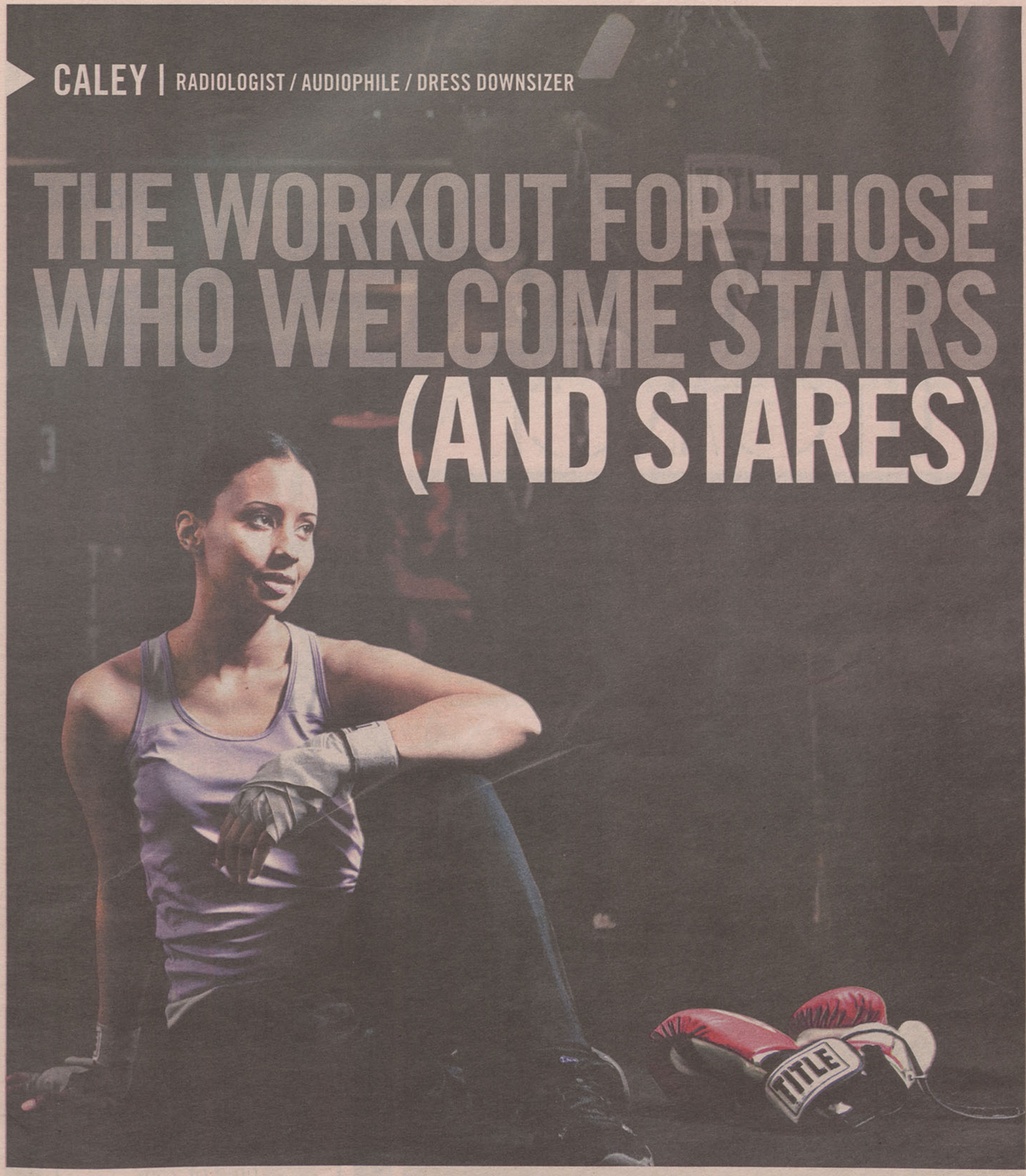

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The Ann Arbor Observer (ISSN #0192–5717) is published thirteen times a year, once each month plus a special issue in August (the City Guide), by the Ann Arbor Observer Company, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Telephone: (734) 769–3175. USPS #454–470. Member Certified Audit of Circulations, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Ann Arbor, MI.

Subscriptions: $20 for one year, $35 for two years (all paid subscriptions include Priority Web Access). Write to the Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Telephone (734) 769–3175. Fax (734) 769–3375. Email: subscribe@aaobserver.com

Manuscripts: The Observer welcomes freelance material. Send manuscripts to Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Email: Hilton@aaobserver.com

Postmaster: Send address changes to Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

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50 years, 50 stories

Story #40

The Ann Arbor Art Center

Sparking Creativity for People of All Ages and Abilities

For over a century, the Ann Arbor Art Center has been sparking creativity for people of all ages and abilities - through education, exploration, and exhibitions.

As a contemporary forum for the visual arts, the Art Center provides studio classes and arts education for more than 2,600 students each year. Monthly exhibitions and the Center's gallery shop on the first floor showcase the work of over 370 artists - 85% of whom are Michigan artists. In addition, collaborations with the University of Michigan Museum of Art, Washtenaw Community College and other community organizations bring creative experiences to audiences beyond the Center's Liberty Street facility.

Over the years, the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation and its donors have provided more than $200,000 in grant support to help the Art Center grow – including support from two endowments at AAACF that benefit the Center. A $9,500 grant in 2010 helped the Art Center launch a new website that connects visitors to creative programming, exhibitions, and events. And a $17,700 grant in 2012 supported the organization's recent transition to new leadership. In 2013, the Ann Arbor Art Center hosted more than 40,000 visitors - connecting more people than ever to the power of the visual arts in ways that engage minds, expand perspectives, and inspire growth.

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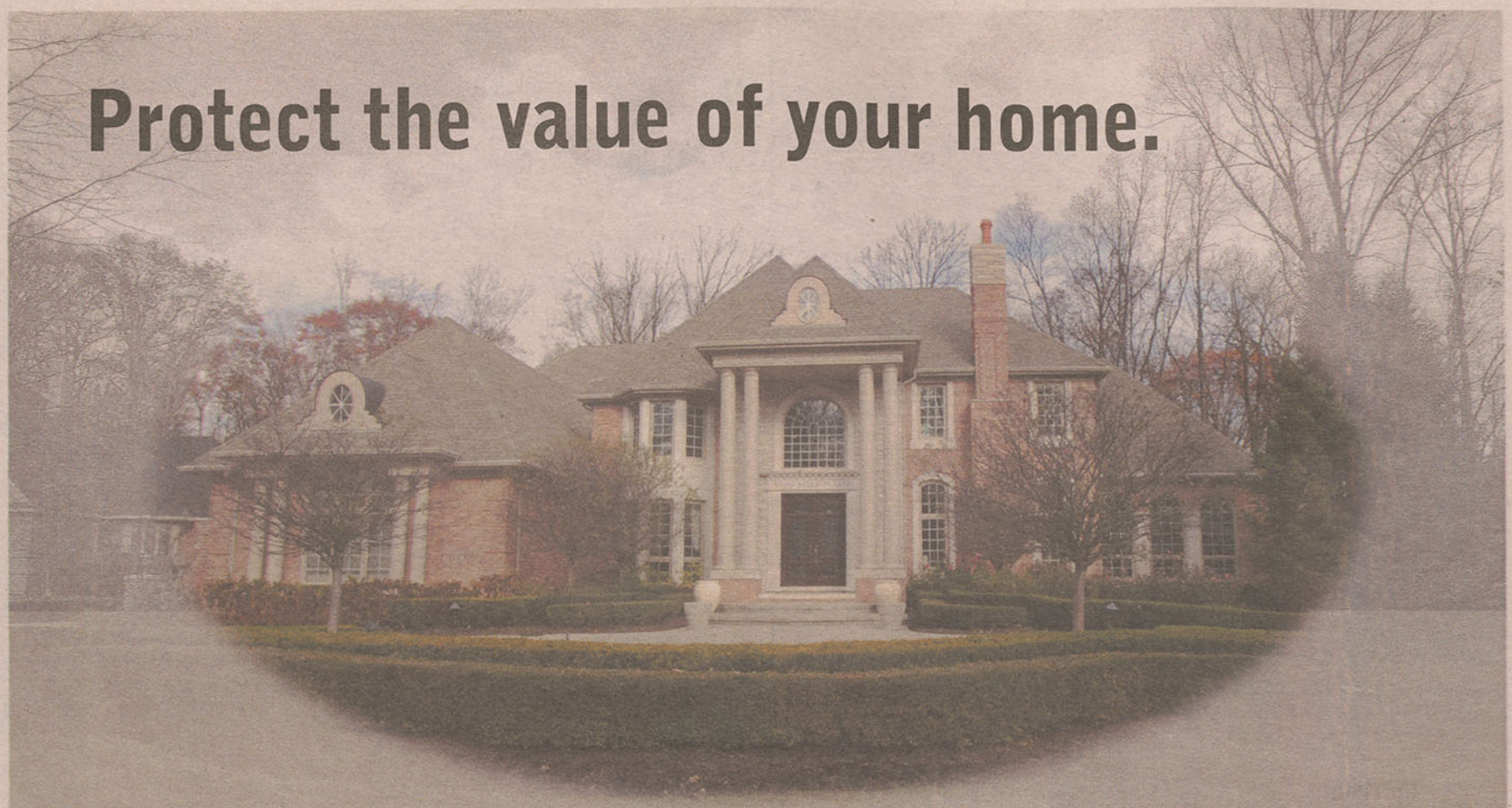

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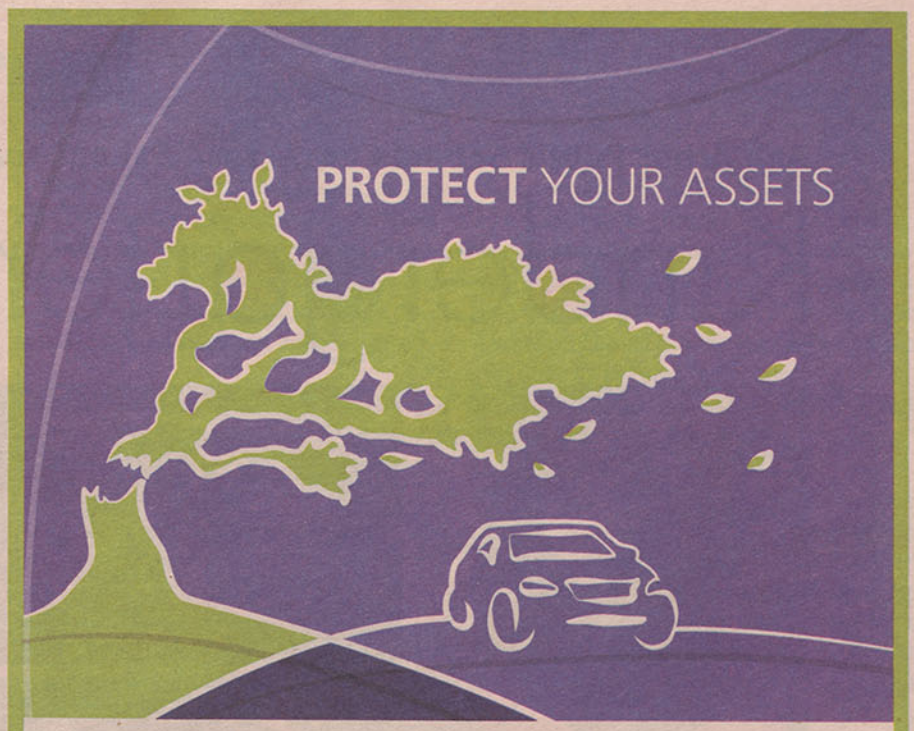

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ANGELL	Thurs. 2/27	6-7 pm
ANN ARBOR OPEN	Thurs. 2/27	6:30 pm (For admitted students only)
BACH	Tues. 2/4	6-7:30 pm
BRYANT	Thurs. 2/13	6-7:30 pm
BURNS PARK	Tues. 1/21	6:30 pm
CARPENTER	Thurs. 2/13	6-7:30 pm
DICKEN	Thurs. 2/27	6-8 pm
EBERWHITE	Wed. 2/26	6:30 -7:30 pm
HAISLEY	Thurs 2/27	6:30 - 8 pm
KING	Mon. 2/24	6:30 - 8 pm
LAKEWOOD	Thurs. 2/27	6-7 pm
LAWTON	Thurs. 2/27	6-7 pm
LOGAN	Thurs. 2/13	6-7 pm
MITCHELL	Wed. 2/12	6-7 pm
NORTHSIDE	Thurs. 2/13	6:30 - 7:30 pm
PITTSFIELD	Thurs. 2/13	6:30 - 8 pm
THURSTON	Thurs. 2/27	6-7 pm
WINES	Wed. 2/5	6:30 - 8 pm

Miracle on ice: Dave Queen noticed the work crews setting up for the NHL Winter Classic a couple days before the big game. "There was this huge event going on down the street, and I couldn't ignore it," says Queen, who lives less than a mile from Michigan Stadium. So even though he didn't have tickets, on game day he asked his son Ryan if he wanted to check it out. They bundled up; Ryan pulled on the "Zetterberg" Red Wings jersey he'd just received for his ninth birthday over his coat; and the two headed out the door. "We'll be back in forty-five minutes," Queen told his wife, Kirstin.

Queen took a photo of Ryan in front of a Red Wings ice sculpture as fans swarmed toward the entrance gates. That's when three guys in NHL coats approached. "Are you guys going into the game?" asked one. Learning they didn't have tickets, the NHL rep handed them a pair.

Ryan recalls the moment with a grin: "I said, 'It's a miracle!' "—and high-fived his dad. Queen says they were "great seats right off center ice in the middle of a bunch of Toronto fans." Even though he and Kirstin are Michigan State alums and huge Spartan fans, he says, "I love being here because of the university … I think the stadium is great. It's always fun and festive, but at this game there were fanatics. It had the feel of a Super Bowl or World Series game."

By the end of the second period, the cold finally got to the pair, and they ran home through the deep, fresh snow. They watched the game's concluding shoot-out on TV in their warm living room. Then the Queens finished off their "miracle" day by cheering the MSU football team to a Rose Bowl victory.

Mother hunt: "A beautiful secure life, love & joy awaits your cherished newborn," read a recent classified ad in the *Ann Arbor Journal,* the Heritage chain's free weekly paper. Another ad offered "A loving alternative to unplanned pregnancy. You choose the family for your child." The first was signed "Kari." The second gave a toll-free number but no name.

"I'm trying to find a birth mother on my own via my personal ad," explains Kari, who didn't give her last name but says she lives in upstate New York. Hoping to find a child to adopt, "I've been doing this since the fall, advertising in different states at different times." She hasn't gotten "a whole lot" of response, but says, "I've seen adoption agencies placing similar ads because they're looking for birth mothers to work with them."

One of those agencies, ANA Adoptions in Furlong, PA, was the other *Journal* advertiser. "We place ads throughout the country," says Andrea Totaro, ANA's director. "We get many calls from all of Michigan. I don't know if we have anyone in Ann Arbor, but we have a mom in Michigan right now who placed with us years ago and still stays in touch."

Disconcertingly, the agency's ad in the *Journal* was listed under the heading "Fast Cash Sell Classified"—perhaps because it offers "living expense assistance."

"We're allowed in Michigan to help with pregnancy-related living expenses and counseling," says Totaro. "If the mother has medical co-pays, we're allowed to help with that as well."

Totaro and her husband, an adoption attorney, lost their only biological child before adopting a son and a daughter. Their insiders' understanding informed their choice of an advertising medium.

"We do a number of free papers, including three that go out to people in Michigan," Totaro said. "For many of these moms, that newspaper in the driveway is the only publication they get. They don't have a dollar to spend on a daily paper."

Garbage gully: When a west side resident stopped by the donation boxes at the edge of the Westgate Kroger parking lot one morning in December to drop off a bag of clothing, the prospect was appalling. The gully between the lot and Maple Road was packed with refuse, including at least one automobile tire. It looked like an exposed landfill.

A call to the Community Standards Unit of the Ann Arbor Police Department revealed that no one else had complained about it. An email to Kroger spokesperson Dale Hollandsworth went unanswered. A second message, five days later, did get a response: the area had been cleaned up within twenty-four hours of the first message.

Hollandsworth indicated in a subsequent phone conversation that the accumulation wasn't that unusual. "It kind of comes and goes," he said. "The same young people that get the [shopping] carts off the lot … patrol the area and [clean] it as needed. Sometimes it gets a little heavier."

When it does, Hollandsworth says, "it should be taken up with the store manager, absolutely. I would strongly encourage that."

Word of the Year: In January, U-M English prof Anne Curzan attended the annual meeting of the American Dialect Society, where the country's top linguists and graduate students present their academic papers—and vote on the Word of the Year. Curzan says the group's been "celebrating lexical creativity" since 1990—much longer than the popular Oxford Dictionaries and Merriam-Webster Word of the Year contests. The ADS's recent picks include "hashtag," "occupy," and "app."

For 2013, Oxford chose "selfie," and Merriam-Webster picked "science." ADS's word? "Because."

Because is hardly new—it dates back to the fourteenth century, according to Curzan—but it's being used in a new way in American culture. "It used to be that because had to be followed by a full clause, but now you can just put a noun or adjective after it: 'I'm stressed because grad school' or 'I'm staying in tonight because -16 degrees.' Pretty cool grammatical stuff," she explains in an email. "And this kind of because came up over and over in the discussion of other words. For example, when the representative of the American Name Society came in and announced that Francis was the Name of the Year, someone yelled out, 'Because Pope!' "

For the freshest take on language change and slang, Curzan turns to the people linguists call the "movers and shakers" in language—college students. That's how she learned the word "hangry," meaning hungry and cranky. ("I know that feeling!" Curzan says.) Another student taught her the word "adorkable" to describe someone who's both adorable and dorky. Also, "turnt" is gaining popularity on campus—as in, "Let's get turnt up!" (to get excited or hyped up).

Although Curzan says some may worry these words signify a "breakdown of grammar" or a "lazy, sloppy use of language," she insists there's no reason to despair. "To be a living language is to be changing," she explains, and that's what makes these new words OK. Also, because fun. ■

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A Tale of Two Condos

Liberty Heights survived the recession. Just a block away, West Towne ended in bankruptcy.

In 2005, a single-wide trailer appeared in a nondescript gravel lot at the northwest corner of Liberty and Maple. The trailer served as the sales office for the West Towne condominiums.

Inside was an impressive scale model of the complex—eighty-eight units in nine buildings—that developer Mike Concannon planned to build on the corner. Potenial buyers were greeted by his wife, Barbara, who passionately described the units' dramatic architectural details, with high ceilings and huge windows, like you'd find in New York City.

Fast forward to October 2008. The bursting real estate bubble and financial crisis sent home buyers running for cover. The closing of Pfizer dumped 1,500 homes on the market as staffers left the city. With prices plunging, builders with unsold homes couldn't even recoup their costs.

"I've been in this business for thirty years, and I've never started a project I haven't finished—until now, when five of them are stalled," Concannon told the Community Observer in 2010. All those properties eventually went into foreclosure. In 2012, Concannon filed for personal bankruptcy, and forty-seven creditors—from Kitchen Suppliers of Detroit to Waldorf Floors in Farmington Hills—got in line hoping to collect debts totaling $5 million.

Concannon's debts were discharged last year—but with the properties gone, the creditors got nothing. Norfolk Homes bought West Towne from Fifth Third Bank and turned it into a rental complex called Blue Heron Pond.

The same year Concannon started West Towne, Peters Building Company launched Liberty Heights just a block away. But unlike West Towne, Liberty Heights—and its developer—survived the economic downturn.

What made the difference?

"We were further along," says Peters owner Jim Haeussler. Because his project moved more quickly, one-third of the condominiums were sold and occupied by October 2008. It helped that Liberty Heights was more traditional in design, appealing to a larger audience than the more novel West Towne.

When sales stopped, Peters put its managers to work constructing homes. "There wasn't the need for the speed. Our employees knew how to trim a house, for instance," says Haeussler. "We did some portion of the work ourselves."

Haeussler said that sales stalled for several years but picked up again last winter. Liberty Heights is now almost sold out, with the last five units getting interior finishing touches.

MARK BIALEK

"We were further along" when the market collapsed, says Liberty Heights developer Jim Haeussler. Nearby, West Towne left Mike Concannon bankrupt.

Water Woes

Council gets the bill to fix flooding in the southwest.

The city has a water problem: the southwest side floods during rainstorms—and the bigger the storm, the bigger the flood. The county has a solution: spend $8.6 million to dig three water retention ponds along Scio Church Road. The proposal goes to council in February, but even if approved, it may be five years before the city comes up with the money.

Jen Lawson, the city's Water Quality Manager, knows the need. "On March 15, 2012, the southwest side caught the tail end of the Dexter tornado. Three to six inches of rain fell in less than an hour. The ground was still frozen and wasn't absorbing water, and in some places leaves were clogging catch basins and keeping the storm water on the streets and in the yards … A handful of neighbors had water coming in through their basement windows."

In the storm's aftermath, the city inspected all the storm water pipes in the area. "We didn't find anything major," Lawson says. "So the question became, can we get water into pipes quicker or should we retain the water somewhere in the neighborhood other than in streets and yards?

"When those houses were built in the '60s and '70s, there were no storm water requirements," Lawson notes. "Whole neighborhoods were built without a retention pond to be seen. So the next step was to look for opportunities to hold the storm water. City council asked us to work with county on this because they'd already done a Malletts Creek study."

"There's no [outside] funding for water projects these days," says Water Resources Commissioner Evan Pratt. That means the cost will have to be covered "100 percent by the city's storm water utilty or general fund."

Malletts Creek "drains half of the city," explains Evan Pratt, the county's Water Resources Commissioner, "and when you put 1947 aerial photographs of the area on top of current photographs, you can see all the large pipes were laid in creek beds—and that's exactly where the worst flooding was."

Various solutions were debated at six public meetings. "People asked why we can't pop in bigger sewers," Pratt says. "The answer is that it would cost $40 million to $70 million and would mean ripping up every street involved. Besides, pushing the water downstream just makes the flow larger" there. "So really detention as close to the source as possible is the best and cheapest solution."

They ultimately picked three locations to hold storm water: an underground basin on city property next to Lawton School plus three open basins on Scio Church: two in Eisenhower-Churchill Park just east of I-94 and the third in the woods at the southern end of Pioneer High School. "If we do all three," says Pratt, "we will not have water on the streets."

The challenge, Pratt says, is that "there's no [outside] funding for water projects these days." That means the cost will have to be covered "100 percent by the city's storm water utility or general fund." But there are already too many calls on the general fund, and according to Lawson, "the storm water fund is tapped for the next five years.

"The fund only has $6 million in revenue per year," Lawson explains, "and $2 million of that goes to administration and funding scheduled maintenance, so only $4 million goes to capital improvements. And road projects take a lot of that money because every road project has a storm water component. For the upcoming Stone School Rd. project from I-94 south to Ellsworth, the storm water component will cost $1 million because there isn't any storm water management on that road now."

So when might the southwest side's storm water basins get built? "I don't know," Lawson replies. "We do a new ranking every year, and that could change their place in the line, but we have to look at citywide impact."

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Thriving Thrift

It seems nothing can stop the PTO Thrift Shop, which raises funds to support PTO activities and the public schools.

The 2006 fire that destroyed all the merchandise in its South State Street location didn't stop it: the board found a better location on South Industrial, along the booming "resale row" with Recycle Ann Arbor's ReUse Center, Top Drawer, and the nearby Salvation Army store. The discovery in 2010 of an IRS rule prohibiting parent volunteers from earning money for their kids' school trips didn't either. The shop saw its daily volunteer count drop from fifteen people to two. Yet it ended that year with $723,000 in income, a $140,000 increase over the year before, and sent $88,000 to the district's schools.

Forced to go pro, the shop thrived. Last year it sold almost $1 million worth of donated clothing, furniture, craft supplies and linen. Even after paying its now almost entirely professional staff, it was able to give $297,000 to the schools. "They are consistently one of our most generous outside funders," says schools spokesperson Liz Margolis.

The shop was launched twenty years ago at Tappan Middle School. "Ann Holz spearheaded fund-raising there, and one year she said at a meeting, 'I am so tired of selling candy and wrapping paper I could scream!' " board chair Janet Fritsch recalls. "Ann had visited her sister in Chapel Hill and found out about the thrift shop there. She brought the information back to Ann Arbor, and a group of us, maybe eight total, put together the first sale." It earned $5,000.

The shop passed through a series of small buildings, Fritsch says, until settling in the mid-1990s "in the building that the Salvation Army is in now, an old building that was so cold in the winter. But we stayed there until the landlord jacked up the rent. Then we went to South State Street."

Since moving to South Industrial after the fire, "we've tripled the amount of space and tripled or quadrupled our sales," Fritsch says. "The space is better organized, and the location is perfect. And we've been very lucky with managers and staff."

They've been especially lucky with their executive director. "Ann Farnham started out as a volunteer," recalls Fritsch. "Then she became a board member. Then she became executive director. Ann has really done a phenomenal job and took it to the next level."

When Farnham joined the board in 2010, she recalls, "only sixteen out of thirty-three schools were involved with the shop, and I got all the schools signed on in two years." That raised awareness of the shop throughout the district—and

MARK BIALEK

Janet Fritsch and Ann Farnham show off the PTO Thrift Shop's new lobby with (back, from left) Debbie Roberts of landlord WRW Properties, Matt Wisniewski, and Colleen Beehler.

helped many less-affluent schools raise money for enrichment activities. Since all the stock and most of the equipment are donated, nearly all the shop's profits go to the schools. Buoyed by the shop's continued success, last fall the board extended its lease for another ten years.

Margolis says the shop's donations "contributed to our field trip transportation fund, funded School Messenger, which is how we communicate with all our families, and maintained after-school middle school busing." Fritsch believes their work is so vital that "the thrift shop should exist forever and ever, or as long as there are schools.

"We're hoping for bigger and better things," the board chair adds. "We have a little over 50 percent of that building now, and we could double the size of the space."

"I see us in another location but keeping this location," says Farnham. "We're far from the west side, and a location there with just clothing could be great if the right opportunity came up."

ParknParty

The NHL Winter Classic was the busiest day ever for parknparty.com.

The local website handled the rental of 3,000 parking and tailgating spots for the New Year's Day hockey game at Michigan Stadium. That easily beat its previous record: 2,000 spaces for the last fall's Michigan–Notre Dame football game.

Serial entrepreneurs Taylor Bond and Jason Kapica own an office building at the intersection of Main Street and Ann Arbor–Saline Road. Four years ago, Bond observed a ritual: after parking for football games, people would call friends to decide where to meet or tailgate. With so many others trying to do the same thing, calls were often dropped.

"Some business idea has to come out of this," Bond thought to himself at the time.

Bond and Kapica designed the first version of the website themselves (one of many talents they've developed while owning five businesses). Parkers can choose a major event, enter their license plate numbers, pick the lot they want, and pay in advance. Though most spaces are in private lots, for the Winter Classic, ParknParty also rented 500 spaces in the city's Library Lane structure. The company's revenue comes from a listing fee paid by lot owners, a $6–$10 convenience fee paid by parkers, and event planning.

"It just made the mystery go away," says Brett Moyer from Milan, who rented two spots at the Ann Arbor Golf and Outing Club across from the Big House before the Michigan-Iowa football game last year. "I thought you had to be a member of some club or an alum to park at the course."

"Customers tell you where you need to be," says Bond, his decibel level rising and his words quickening in excitement. "We became the central repository for all things parking in Ann Arbor," Bond says. Most of the people who called wanted to know about tailgating—where it could happen, where to rent a tent and buy food—and the "party" half of ParknParty.com took shape. The site now offers event planning, food, and entertainment—for one customer, they provided a tent with power, cable TV, and Zingerman's catering.

In the beginning, parking lot owners weren't clamoring to sign up. They figured they would fill their spaces

MARK BIALEK

The sight of frustrated football fans trying to plan their tailgate parties inspired Taylor Bond and Jason Kapica's latest business.

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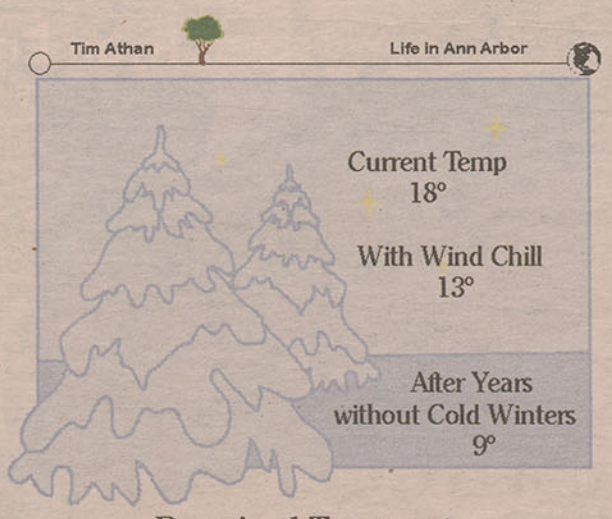
anyway—and in any case weren't sure how much to charge. They'd say, " 'Bob's lot down the road sets the price,' " Kapica recalls. " 'The traffic comes from that way, and Bob's is the first lot customers see.' "

So Bond and Kapica set out to educate lot owners on how to maximize their earnings. Were their spaces easy-out, or next to a picnic table, or with access to a bathroom or electricity, or large enough for an RV? And they pointed out the convenience of selling spaces ahead of time, eliminating the need for the lot owners to stand in the road waving customers in.

Perry Sankovich started listing the nine parking spaces in his yard on Belmar, a block west of Main, two years ago. "It's simply easier because I can sell the spots up front and don't have to deal with cash," he says. And at the company's suggestion, he now has two-tier pricing: five higher-price spots on his lawn are easy access, and the customers keep their keys. Four lower-priced spots are tucked away.

Last year, ParknParty expanded to South Bend and is gearing up to add Madison. And Bond says that the National Hockey League was so pleased with ParknParty's work for this year's Winter Classic that they're talking about expanding to Washington, D.C., for next January's game.



Perceived Temperature

calls & letters

Filed but not published

Our December feature on the Downtown Development Authority mischaracterized part of councilmember Steve Kunselman's amendment to the city's DDA ordinance. We said it required the authority to "file" timely reports; in fact, it requires the DDA to "publish" them.

Both Kunselman and Sumi Kailasapathy told us that the DDA had failed to file required reports for many years. They were mistaken about that—both city CFO Tom Crawford and state treasury spokesperson Terry Stanton confirm that the authority filed its annual reports with the city and state. But Kunselman was correct about publication, which for legal purposes means appearing as a paid ad in a newspaper. There's no evidence that the DDA published its reports until 2011, after Kunselman raised questions about them.

A granddaughter, not a daughter

"I never knew my great-grandfather owned an airport," Heather Meloche said in a phone call. Unfortunately, the way she found out was because of an error in our November "Then & Now" about Washtenaw Airport.

We attributed a story about an accident involving her great-grandfather, Robert MacVicar, to "MacVicar's daughter, Sandra Thompson." In fact, Meloche pointed out, "Sandra is his granddaughter. His only daughter is Marian MacVicar," Meloche's grandmother.

question corner

Q. I like the old street clocks that I see in so many towns and cities. Isn't it odd that Ann Arbor doesn't have one?

A. Sometimes called "post clocks," these would traditionally stand in town squares, often next to jewelry stores. The Ann Arbor historians contacted by the Observer informally agree that our city never had one. In 1986, however, a clock in a similar style was added to the First National Building by its owner, First Martin Corporation, and then-tenant Merrill Lynch. At the time, a display beneath the clock displayed the Dow Jones stock index, but after a couple of decades the mechanism began to develop problems. Since Merrill Lynch was no longer a tenant, the display was removed.

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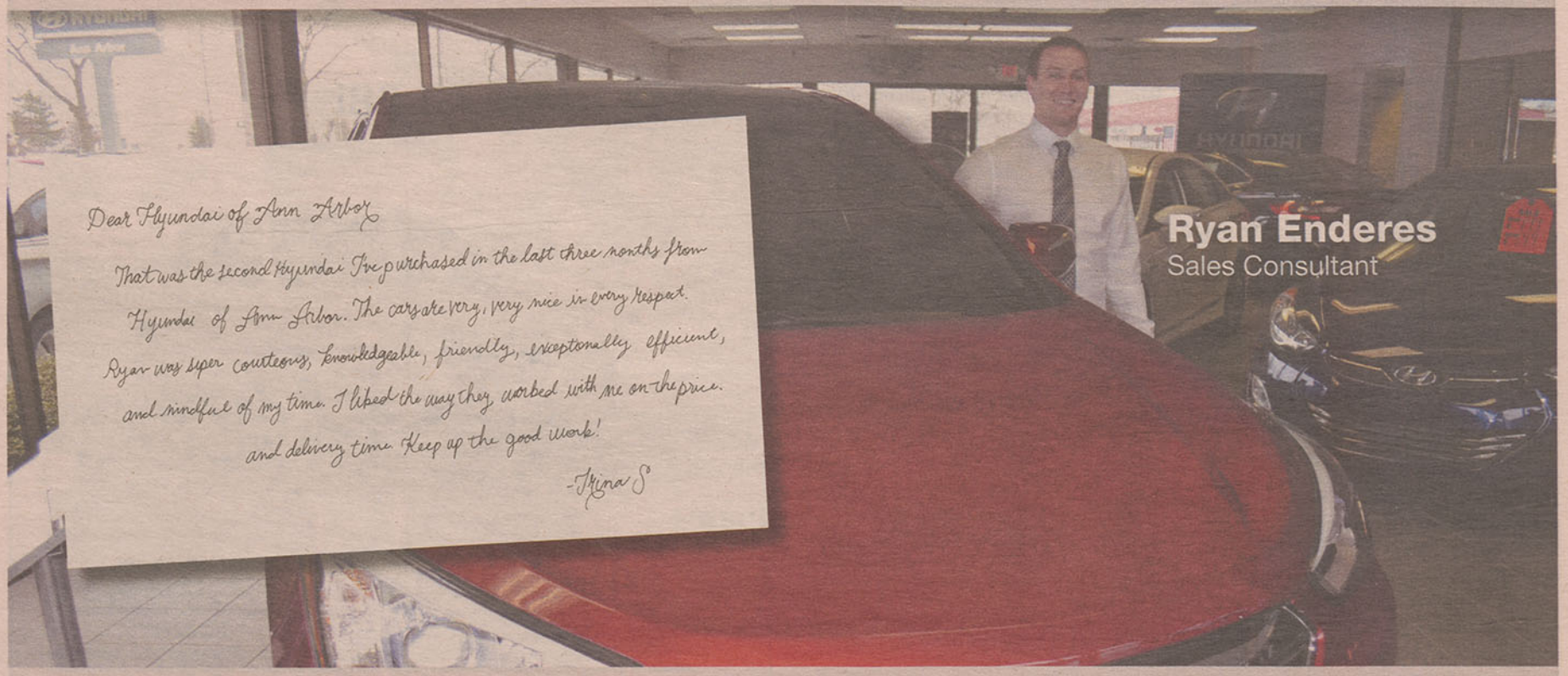
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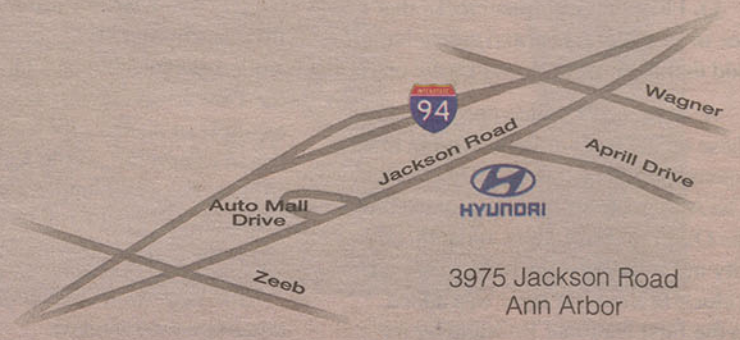

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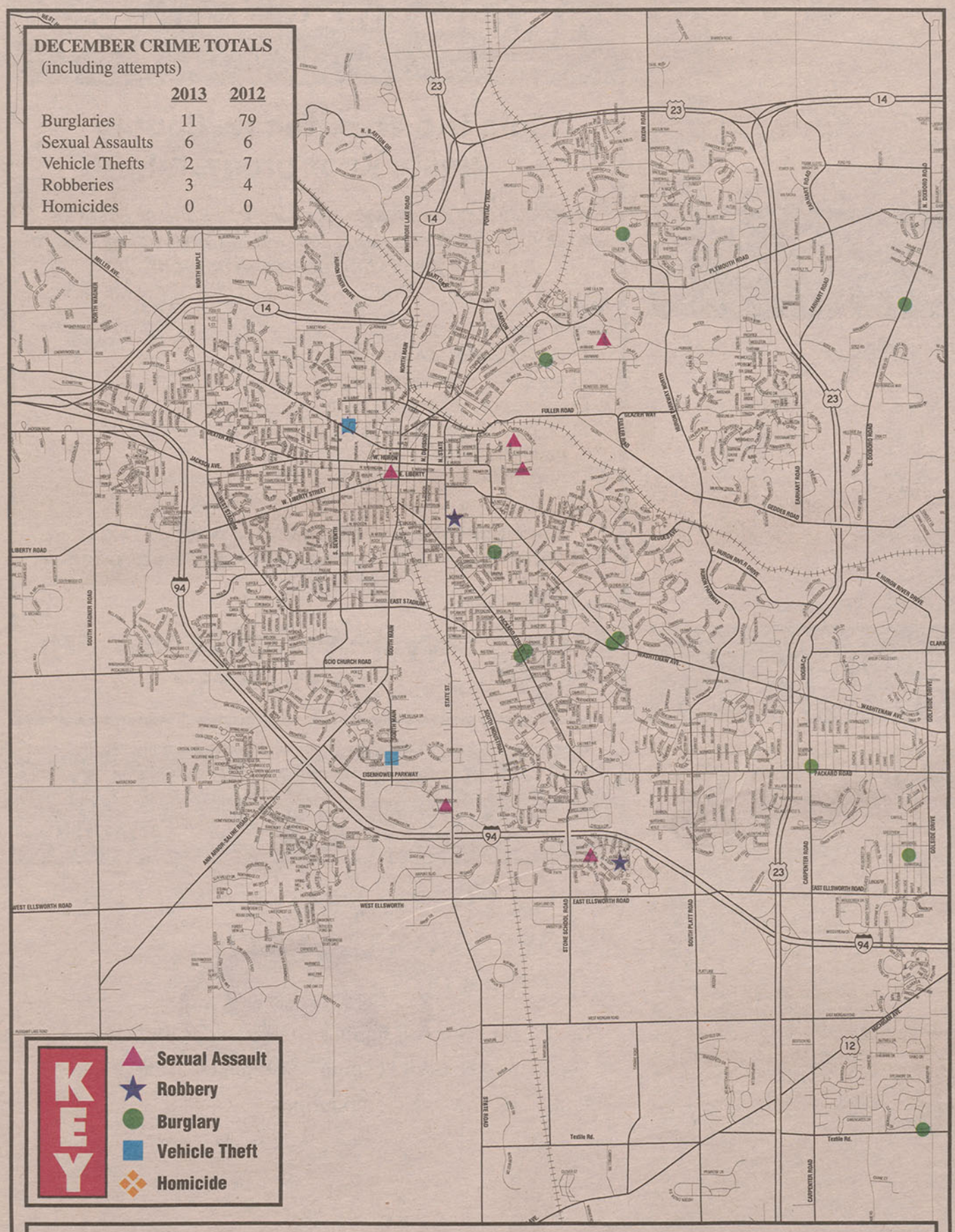
CrimeMap



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **December 2013.** Placement is approximate.

The Ann Arbor and Pittsfield departments have moved to a centralized record-keeping system run by crimemapping.com. As a result, they no longer are able to distinguish crimes from attempts, or sexual assaults by acquaintances from assaults by strangers.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **944–1238 in Pittsfield Township.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.),** the **U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131),** or the **Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in December 2013 and December 2012.

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Evan Dayringer and Britten Stringwell

Community builders

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

They met in 2009 at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. He was working with Frog Holler, and she was selling her raw-food "B Bars." "He really liked the bars and came and got them regularly," Stringwell recalls. "I think he really liked them, unless he just wanted to talk to me."

They've created a line of raw energy bars, established a small farm, and revived the "Yellow Barn" community arts venue. But Evan Dayringer, thirty-two, and Britten Stringwell, thirty, agree that their latest creative collaboration—the arrival, eight months ago, of daughter Liipa Daywell—has brought a new sense of "organization" to their myriad endeavors. "I think she's helped us get our ducks in a row," says Stringwell.

It's a freezing cold January day, and they're at the Barn, a rough-hewn old building just west of the Ann Arbor Railroad tracks on Huron. As they describe their work intended to create "hubs for holistic living" in Ann Arbor, the couple are in constant motion—passing the baby back and forth; pacing with big, bounding steps to calm her: or moving from one worn couch to another. (Liipa's first name derives from Lip Hop, a pet name her parents had for her while she was still in the womb; they created her last name by blending their own.)

A loose, stylish blouse peeking out from Stringwell's winter layers hints at her background as a designer and seamstress—she makes her own clothes and has supported herself selling handmade "unihoods" (think hoodie minus the sweatshirt). Dayringer, a math grad turned farmer, is lean and strong, with short brown hair and an intense gaze.

Their advocacy for the Barn began about five years ago, when Stringwell started working with then-property manager Bill Gross to organize community events like the "Bizarre Dance," a combined open mic night and dance party. "We might have a high school swimmer and then a janitor" up to the mic, she says, "or some college students doing a sword-fight and then a musician."

The barn has recently become even more central to the couple's lives. Last year, Gross left, and the space went dark. Stringwell and Dayringer spearheaded a push to maintain the barn as a community center. They joined a like-minded group of artists to form an L3C, a for-profit business entity emphasizing social benefits and minimal income, to rent and manage the building. They've since cultivated a busy schedule of events including concerts, craft nights, fitness workshops, and a revival of the Bizarre Dance.

"It's a center for just meeting your neighbor," says Dayringer. "It's a center for having someplace to go with your kid." The common thread is building community.

Dayringer says his mother, Charo Ledón, taught him that "you can make your community." Born in Cuba, she moved to Ann Arbor alone at age twenty. She married (Evan is one of two sons), ran small businesses, and now runs the Casa Latina community center.

At Michigan State, Dayringer alternated between science majors before settling on math. He earned his undergrad degree in 2008 and thought of going on to grad school but soon became frustrated with the cost of school and the "high stress" of trying to win an academic position. Instead, he pursued a hands-on education in farming and food production, working at Frog Holler Farm, the Brinery, and Chelsea's Tantre Farm.

Stringwell graduated from Huron High and went on to the U-M, where she designed her own major in "environment and behavior." Studying architecture, psychology, and natural resources, she explains, she learned how to create spaces that "feel warm and welcoming and inspiring." She also took a second major in graphic design, graduating in 2005.

They met in 2009 at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. He was working with Frog Holler, and she was selling her raw-food "B Bars." "He really liked the bars and came and got them regularly," Stringwell recalls. "I think he really liked them, unless he just wanted to talk to me." Dayringer is quick to clear up the matter: "No, I really liked the bars!"

He started Eat Ideas Farm in 2012. After going through two small locations in as many growing seasons, this year he'll be working a plot at Packard and Nordman, just down the road from the Cobblestone Farm Market, where Dayringer is an organizing member and a regular vendor. Neither Dayringer nor Stringwell regards the previous locations as failures; Stringwell describes them as "a series of experiments," a learning process that will lead to an ideal end location. However, she's hoping the newest site proves successful, since it's a neighborhood the couple would like to settle in eventually—currently, they're living with Ledón at her home on the West Side.

The Yellow Barn is bringing in enough income to cover its rent, but any extra is plowed back into improving the venue. So at the moment, Stringwell's B Bars are the couple's more financially lucrative project. With occasional help from a few friends and family members, they make bars three days a week, producing around 1,000 bars a month for sale at area farmers' markets and the People's Food Co-op.

Dayringer says they'd like to raise that number "quite a bit." They've rigged up a kitchen in the Barn, and since Liipa's birth they've been working on food safety certification and improved packaging in order to introduce the bars at bigger retailers like Whole Foods. Stringwell says all the elements for an expansion are in place except funding; they've taken out "really small loans" from her mother, but otherwise want to maintain sole control of B Bars. "We'll still be able to do it," Dayringer says. "It'll just be a longer slog."

The young couple says their community of family and friends will keep them in Ann Arbor. They note that their college educations could always help kick in income—she can do graphic design, he can tutor math—but "as far as going into the traditional mainstream economy, I don't think they'd have us," Dayringer says. "If you've been out of that, or even in that, there's like eight job seekers for every position. I don't even see that as an option."

He doesn't sound discouraged. "All these different projects—B Bars, Eat Ideas Farm, the Yellow Barn, our family—everything is sort of coming together on a shoestring."

—Patrick Dunn

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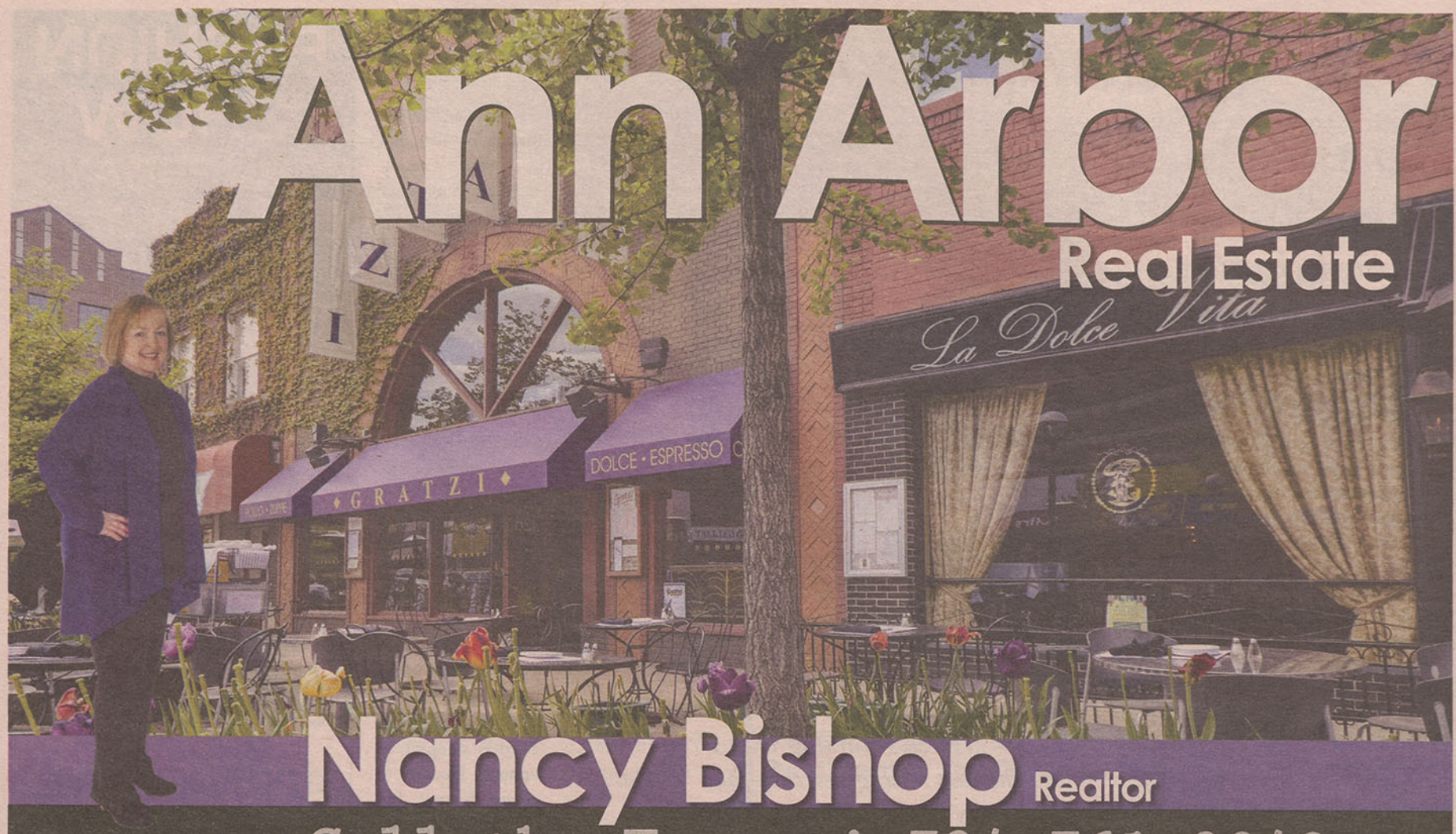

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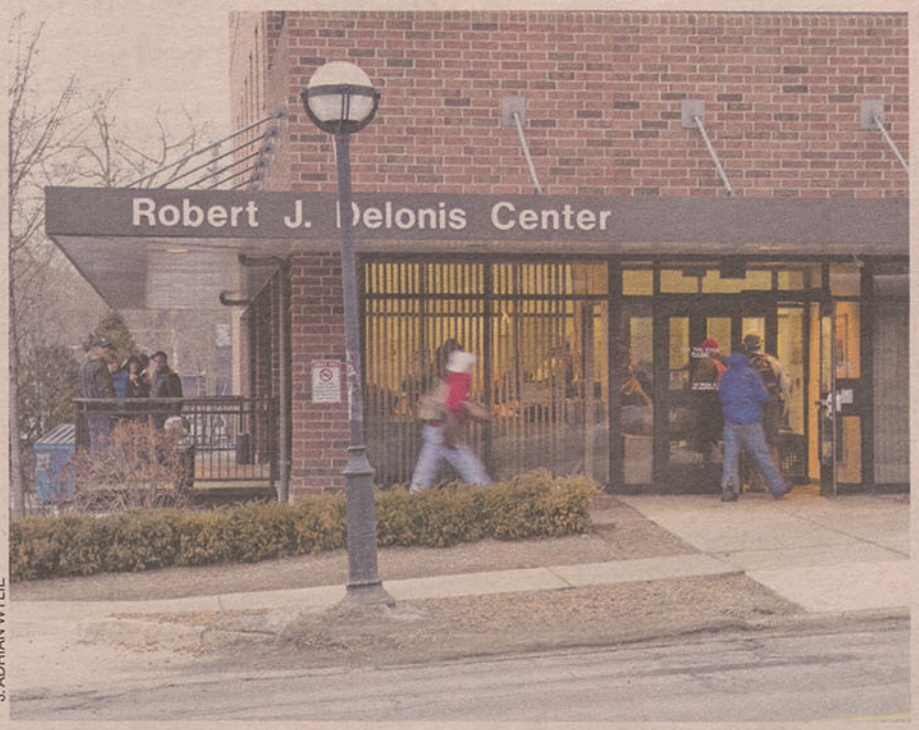
Polar Vortex

How I found my long lost sister in the cold snap



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

I would pass very close to the Delonis Center on my way home, anyway, so I decided to stop by.

I remain haunted by what I found. It was like a dystopia of the future—but the future was now.

It's not like I'm crazy. I would have stayed inside like everyone else.

It was the second day after the "polar vortex" hit us. The wind chill was something like forty degrees below zero, and the police were asking people not to go out. But Fourth Avenue Birkenstock had bravely stayed open, even though a huge percentage of its stock is sandals. And my daughter, Amelia, insisted on walking a mile there from our house to work her shift, and she got away before I learned how cold it was. Then my son, Zachary, insisted on walking there, too, to buy sandals—he was leaving in two days to spend a semester studying in Toulouse, France, and had to have them.

So I found myself walking along beside Zach, muttering under my breath that maybe I regretted raising them to be so stoic, with such a strong work ethic, and also trying to forget that Toulouse is vexingly close to the Mediterranean.

Zach headed straight home after making his purchase, but I went to the People's Food Co-op for some groceries. Outside, two men were huddled over cups of joe as always—one a *Groundcover News* vendor, the other an itinerant political pundit and panhandler. "Oh, we can handle ourselves," they replied when I asked them what they were doing out in this weather.

At the corner of Fourth Avenue and Huron, I found myself suddenly exposed to the full ferocity of the wind. For the first time in my life, I discovered what forty degrees below zero feels like. It didn't hurt my face so much as the bones beneath it. (I found out later this was because the skin on my face was partly frozen.) It felt like someone was punching me hard in the face, repeatedly. I covered my face with my mittened hands and peered through a small opening between them, wishing I had a balaclava. Every time I took a breath, it felt like I was swallowing a scalding sip of coffee (and I don't even drink coffee!). And I still had twenty more minutes to get to my house.

At Fourth and Washington, I was shocked to see another *Groundcover* vendor, wearing an inadequate-looking coat and gloves. I walked up to him and said: "Hey! What are you doing out here? Don't you know this weather can kill you!"

"Hey," he said. "I'm working. What about you?"

I didn't feel like telling him I'd been buying sandals for my son, who was going to the Mediterranean, so I got all the money out of my wallet (I only had $3) and bought three papers. "Promise me you'll get to shelter soon," I told him.

"Only if you promise me the same thing," he answered.

I had gotten to know some *Groundcover* vendors over the years—one woman was writing a book of poetry. One was saving enough money to start a business. I thought about them and wondered if they were safe. I would pass very close to the Delonis Center on my way home, anyway, so I decided to stop by.

I remain haunted by what I found. It was like a dystopia of the future—but the future was now.

The lobby was filled with men waiting to take Breathalyzer tests. During the cold snap the shelter relaxed its rules to let people with blood alcohol levels of up to 0.2 into the night shelter, twice the usual limit. That night, all seventy-five beds in the center were filled, and another sixty-five people slept on mats on another floor that was opened for the emergency.

That day, I asked a shelter worker if they needed help. She quickly listed off a dozen needs, which I posted on my Facebook page as soon as I made it home. Many of my friends offered to help, and I called the shelter and posted regular updates over the next three days. I became obsessed with the idea that I did not want a single homeless person to die in our town. I couldn't stop thinking about them—especially the independent, stubborn ones, who usually refuse to come in out of the cold.

By Thursday, the temperatures were more normal, and they were out on the streets again. I began to understand the source of my obsession when I saw a woman in her fifties sitting in front of the downtown library clutching a backpack as if it held all her earthly belongings—which it probably did. Her eyes had the look of a tourist who has run out of money, lost her passport, and can't get back home again, to where the rest of us live. She looked stranded in time.

It's a look I know well. My older sister Ruth has had it for about forty years, ever since she was diagnosed with schizophrenia and began to lose functioning. Ruth—not her real name—is not homeless, but she has barely escaped that condition at least twenty times in her life, and it's getting worse: she has had to move about ten times in the past three years. Only the repeated intervention of another sister, who lives closer to Ruth, has kept her from falling completely through the safety net.

Seeing the woman in front of the library reminds me that I have not been able to regularly talk or visit with Ruth for about twenty years. I feel a need to fix all her problems—and know I can't. There's a lot of guilt involved, too. I know it's only a matter of luck that I'm living a middle-class life with a husband, family, and career. It's not like I did anything to deserve my good fortune—and Lord knows, she doesn't deserve her difficult life. I know if she had been able to enjoy the same stability that I have, she would not be so sick.

Most people who are homeless do not suffer from a diagnosed mental illness. But people with a diagnosis are more likely to become homeless, because they often need a lot of emotional and practical support to function. That day after the storm, I asked myself: How is it I can spend three days providing support to the homeless people of Ann Arbor, and yet ignore most of my own sister's phone calls?

When I got home, the first thing I did was call Ruth up. She sounded so happy to hear from me. "Madeline!" she said, overjoyed. "Why are you calling?"

"Ruth. I just want to say I love you. I'm so glad you're still alive."

—Madeline Strong Diehl

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Ralph W. Hammett, Monuments Man

He helped save Europe's treasures—and Ann Arbor's.

I have long been curious about the late Ralph W. Hammett. A U-M architecture professor, he designed many local buildings, including an addition to the Ann Arbor (then Women's) City Club on Washtenaw, the Congregational Church's Douglas Memorial Chapel on William, and a home on Newport for Ruth Wanstrom, one of the early women on the U-M Medical School faculty. I attend meetings at the City Club, was married in the Douglas Chapel, and live in that house on Newport. But I began serious research into Hammett's life only last fall when, as a volunteer reference librarian at the U-M Bentley Historical Library, I received an inquiry from one of his relatives.

His interest had been piqued by publicity for the upcoming film *Monuments Men,* about the small cadre of experienced specialists—art and architectural historians and museum curators—assigned to protect western Europe's cultural treasures during World War II.

COURTESY U-M BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY

When soldiers almost blew up Chartres Cathedral because they thought it harbored German snipers, Hammett was one of the men who protected it … Then he returned home to one of Ann Arbor's most beautiful and historically significant houses. He had saved that, too.

Hammett was a Monuments Man. He arrived in France in August 1944, one of the first three members of the army's Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section (MFAA) in the country. When soldiers almost blew up Chartres Cathedral because they thought it harbored German snipers, he was one of the men who protected it. Hammett was the ranking MFAA officer in an area that encompassed most of France, southern Belgium, and Luxembourg. Then he came home to one of Ann Arbor's most beautiful and historically significant buildings, the Guy Beckley house on Pontiac Trail. He had saved that, too.

Born in Mankato, Minnesota, in 1896, Hammett was a seaman in the Navy during World War I; earned bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture at the University of Minnesota and Harvard, respectively; and taught at the University of Washington and what is now the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago before coming to the U-M in 1931. By then he had published *The Romanesque Architecture of Western Europe: Italy, France, Spain, Germany and England,* researched during a two-year fellowship at the American Academy in Rome.

In 1933, he purchased the Guy Beckley House at 1425 Pontiac Trail. According to a 1936 *Ann Arbor News* article, the house had been empty for years and was almost past repair when Hammett acquired it.

In his second book, *Architecture in the United States: A Survey of Architectural Styles Since 1776,* Hammett wrote that the house was built in 1842 for "the Reverend Guy Beckley, a Methodist minister and ardent abolitionist, who published a small but nationally distributed antislavery magazine, *The Signal of Liberty.*" The Ann Arbor station of the underground railway for escaped slaves headed to Canada, it was, he wrote, "a yellow-painted brick New England Georgian type." He restored the small front portico with two fluted Ionic columns and added "such modern amenities as plumbing and heating," along with "a temple-like side porch." His family lived there for twenty-two years.

In 1943, the regents granted Hammett leave from his U-M position, and he entered the army as a captain. The directors of major museums in the United States had persuaded the military to save as much of the culture of Europe as possible. Shortly before the invasion of France in June 1944, Allied supreme commander Dwight Eisenhower issued an order to protect monuments and cultural collections.

Eisenhower's order began by acknowledging that the fighting was "designed to preserve our civilization" and that "inevitably in the path of our advance" will be "historical monuments and cultural centers which symbolize to the world all that we are fighting to preserve." The order continued: "It is the responsibility of

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every commander to protect and respect these symbols whenever possible."

After the war, Hammett wrote about his experience in several articles and reports; Robert Edsel's book *The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History* also provides glimpses of what he contributed. With the Harvard Museum's George Stout and Metropolitan Museum of Art curator James Rorimer, he was one of the first three Monuments Men to reach France. Edsel describes their meeting—"three middle aged men in wrinkled brown uniforms"—on August 13, 1944, outside the ruins of Saint-Lo.

What did he do? Hammett wrote:

"Our work consisted of 1) protecting monuments, 2) recording war damage, and 3) supervising the billeting of troops. As the combat zone moved forward … the specialist officer checked damage to historical buildings, fine arts, and libraries. Contacts were made with owners and French government officials in charge of the various monuments. Instructions were given as to the joint responsibility of the military and the French administration. Ostensibly the local authority continued its control, but our military had the right to take over and use any building, no matter how important, if military necessity demanded."

"Twice, high ranking officers attempted to take over Fontainebleau," Hammett wrote after the war, "and a high headquarters group wanted to hold a dance in the hall of mirrors at Versailles."

The Monuments Men tried to see to it that officers didn't abuse that power. "Our own brass hats gave us some embarrassing problems," Hammett wrote. "Twice, high ranking officers attempted to take over Fontainebleau … and a high headquarters group wanted to hold a dance in the hall of mirrors at Versailles."

Hammett continues: "In the field of fine arts and historical monuments, France is well organized and at no time during German occupation did she lose control of them. Soon after Munich she started moving her valuable collections to various depositories where everything was packed, listed, and kept under constant guard … Their contents included the best from national and municipal collections, the finest stain glass from churches and cathedrals [including Chartres], valuable archives, and a few of the best private collections. During the occupation the Germans were aware of most of these depositories and regularly inspected many of them. With a few exceptions, they did not attempt to disturb collections owned by the government, as they controlled the government and believed that after the war they could do as they wished with these prizes ...

"On the other hand, private collections that were not hidden away did not do so well. The Germans confiscated Jewish properties from the very start. Chateaux and fine residences were plundered ruthlessly and millions of dollars' worth of furnishing, paintings, sculptures, books, and silverware were exported into Germany. A clearinghouse was set up in the Jeu de Paume Museum in Paris where inventories of these collections were kept, and the finest works displayed for sale. Goering visited this changing display no less than thirteen times in order to buy masterpieces for himself and Hitler … The looting of chateaux and fine residences in France and Belgium became one of the big businesses of the German occupation. Looting was by no means limited to Jewish property. A steady caravan of trucks and freight cars loaded with fine furnishings, works of art, and household goods passed over the German border everyday." His successors in the MFAA would continue to work on finding, inventorying, and returning those treasures until 1951. Hammett himself was discharged as a major in 1945 and resumed teaching at the U-M that fall.

Hammett returned to 1425 Pontiac Trail, where he lived until 1956, when he moved into a new house he had designed at 485 Riverview Drive. He maintained his interest in European architecture, spending 1953–54 travelling in Portugal, Spain, France, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, and Holland, and returning to the American Academy in Rome as architectural professor.

Hammett retired in 1965. The regents' act approving his emeritus status noted that he "revealed a nicely balanced feeling for the changing aspects of architectural practice and for the permanent" and that he "concerned himself with the preservation of past architectural monuments while retaining a lively interest in the modern scene and sharing with his students his practical contemporary expertness."

In 1961–62, he had an architectural practice at 201 E. Liberty with Art Van Curler and William R. Fritz. By 1971 he was living at 311 Lake Haven as an early resident of the David Osler–designed Geddes Lake townhouses. He briefly lived in Huron Towers on Fuller Road before moving in 1977 to Rochester, Minnesota, where he had family. He died there on July 11, 1984.

Perhaps Ralph Hammett's most lasting contributions to Ann Arbor stand today in the form of the buildings that he designed. Besides the houses on Newport and Riverview, the City Club addition, and the Douglas Chapel, he designed the parish hall for St. Andrews Episcopal Church, the addition to the Pi Beta Phi sorority at 836 Tappan, the Lutheran campus ministry at Hill and Forest, and Trinity Lutheran Church at 1400 W. Stadium Blvd.

Like the Beckley house and his work saving the cultural heritage of Western Europe during World War II, his buildings stand as proof—monuments, one could call them—to his lifelong commitment to making the world a better place through architecture.

—Margaret A. Leary

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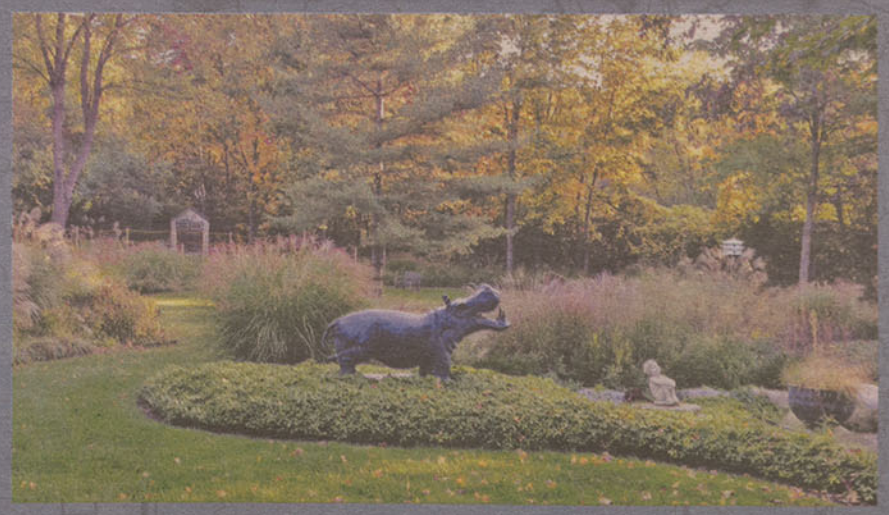

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A $250,000 ELECTION?

BY JAMES LEONARD

THIS YEAR'S CITY COUNCIL RACE IS SHAPING UP AS THE MOST EXPENSIVE IN HISTORY

It costs a lot of money to run for city council these days.

In November, Jane Lumm and Kirk Westphal spent over $40,000 between them in Ward Two. Their total nearly doubled last year's second-most-expensive contest, the $21,000 Democratic primary between Jack Eaton and Marcia Higgins in Ward Four. And it easily topped the previous record holder: the $34,000 race in 2011, when Lumm beat Stephen Rapundalo.

The average cost of a winning council campaign has more than doubled in the last five years, from $6,000 to $13,500 (see box, p. 29). Though the best-funded candidate doesn't always win—in Ward Three, Steve Kunselman won his last three races against better-funded opponents—there's no question money helps. Take Jack Eaton. He spent $4,700 when he ran and lost in 2010, $7,500 when he ran and lost again in 2012—and $15,700 when he ran and won in 2013.

Citywide mayoral races cost even more. With John Hieftje retiring after seven terms, Kunselman, Sabra Briere, Sally Hart Petersen, and Christopher Taylor have announced they're running for the job. Petersen estimates that her campaign alone will cost $50,000. Our educated guess is that the mayoral candidates between them will raise at least $150,000, and that the total cost of this year's council races will approach a quarter of a million dollars.

The Observer reviewed public contribution records from 2009 through 2013 to find the city's top donors and spenders (see table, right). We found a lot of crossover—half of the top donors are politicians—and a deep division between supporters and critics of the outgoing mayor.

Topping the donor list is new Ward Four rep Jack Eaton, a Hieftje critic who's given $9,382 to his own and his allies' campaigns since 2009. Former mayoral candidate Pat Lesko gave $7,849 to her own campaign in 2010—singlehandedly putting her in third place on the list. And Lumm and two supporters who made large in-kind contributions to her campaigns, Monique Wardner and Pat Johnston, hold down three spots. Hieftje strategist Leah Gunn gave $3,990 to the mayor and his allies, while John and Gwen Nystuen gave $2,975 to his opponents.

Only two non-politicians—developer Dennis Dahlmann and philanthropist Peter Heydon—gave to both sides. Both gave $1,000—then the maximum permitted by law—to Hieftje in each of his last two elections. Yet both have also given to the mayor's critics, including Sumi Kailasapathy, Steve Kunselman, and Jane Lumm.

Though their total donations are too low to make the list, two of the city's most vocal online commentators also put their money where their mouths are: VA administrator Alan Goldsmith regularly contributes to anti-Hieftje candidates, while banker Stephen Lange Ranzini—who's talked about a mayoral run himself—jumped in with

Eaton

Gunn

Ann Arbor's Top Ten Political Contributors

Ranked by donations to city council and mayoral candidates, 2009–2013

Jack Eaton	$9,382*
Dennis Dahlmann	$9,000
Pat Lesko	$7,849*
Monique Wardner	$6,948
Jane Lumm	$6,365*
Peter Heydn	$5,250
Sally Hart Petersen	$4,232*
Leah Gunn	$3,990
Pat Johnston	$3,324
Gwen & John Nystuen	$2,975

*Includes candidates' funding of their own campaigns

Lesko

Lumm

$100 contributions to Eaton and Kunselman in 2013. Last year also saw two new contributors plump down maximum $500 donations to council candidates: attorney Irv Mermelstein to Eaton and retired engineer Rad Smith to Westphal.

To learn what spurred their sudden activism, we interviewed both Mermelstein and Smith—along with eight other political donors picked for the depth of their support and/or the intensity of their opinions: three on the pro-Hieftje side, three on the anti-Hieftje side, and two who have given to both sides. We asked why they support the candidates they do, what they expect for their money, and whom they'll support this year.

We learned that the people who fund local politics are as deeply divided as council on major issues, including the biggest: what kind of town is Ann Arbor?

The answer is obvious to pro-Hieftje contributors. "We're a city," says Joan Lowenstein, the former city councilmember, current Downtown Development Authority board member, and attorney who's given $1,375 to pro-Hieftje candidates in the last five years. "We're not a small Midwest college town."

So Lowenstein gives money to candidates who support downtown and the DDA. Similar thinking led Downtown Home & Garden owner Mark Hodesh to give $600 to pro-Hieftje candidates since 2009—with one exception.

"I supported Kunselman in 2009, and boy was I sorry," he says with a laugh. "I supported [Kunselman's primary challenger, Julie] Grand this year because she was more inclusive—and less anti-DDA."

Lowenstein makes no secret of her disdain for the mayor's opponents: "Jack Eaton is wrong 100 percent of the time," she claims. "He said you don't always have to listen to the city attorney, even concerning 413 East Huron where millions of dollars were at stake. But he has zero experience on zoning, so for him to say [the city should] disregard expert opinions is flat-out wrong." (Eaton had no comment.)

Both Lowenstein and Leah Gunn also contributed to Sumi Kailasapathy's opponents—Lowenstein $100 to Sandi Smith in 2010 and Gunn $75 to Eric Sturgis last year. And between them, they've given a total of $950 to Jane Lumm's opponents since 2009. Lowenstein hits the Second Ward rep with the dirtiest word in the Democrats' lexicon: "Jane Lumm is a Republican," she says, "and she's against everything I'm for."

Gunn has an even harsher label for council's anti-Hieftje forces. "They're Tea Party Republicans. They believe all Ann Arbor needs is more police and firefighters."

But the Hieftjeites aren't all pure Democrats, either. Rad Smith, who made a first-time local contribution of $500 to Lumm's most recent opponent, Kirk Westphal, says he used to be a Republican himself. The retired engineer says he wanted "a more enlightened and rational representative council"—and also to restore geographical balance in the ward where both current representatives, Lumm and Petersen, live next to "the crime-plagued and fire-ridden [Huron Hills] golf course.

"That's all that can explain their calls for more police and firefighters when the crime and fire rates are so far down," Smith jokes: "An unreported wave of crimes and fires near the golf course."

The anti-Hieftje forces—who now hold a tenuous council majority—do indeed want to have more public safety officers. They also share a dislike for recent development downtown.

"There's been too much development," says LuAnne Bullington, a retiree who's contributed $2,747 to anti-Hieftje candidates since 2009. "They've turned us into a windy city like Chicago. I want city council to pay attention to the neighborhood, to things like sidewalk gaps, street repair, leaf pickup, and what they can do to make life better for the residents. The people I support work for people and neighborhoods and not developers."

"I've been a neighborhood advocate for many years," says Kathy Griswold, a longtime political activist and former school board member who contributed $1,858 to Eaton, Lumm, and Kunselman last year. "I did give money to Hieftje early on because he started out as a neighborhood advocate. But he has not funded basic infrastructure for pedestrian sidewalks and crosswalks." Hieftje responds that he's still a neighborhood advocate—and points to the "flashing beacons and well-marked crosswalks [that] have gone up across town over the past few years."

Alan Goldsmith's disillusionment with the mayor parallels Griswold's. "I started

PHOTOS: J. ADRIAN WYLIE

contributing to people opposed to Hieftje in 2008, about the same time I started" posting critical online comments. "Up until then I voted for Hieftje. But it seems like in 2008 he started believing his own press clippings. There wasn't any transparency on council, and there were a group of people who made deals behind closed doors." Goldsmith has given $1,025 to anti-Hieftje candidates since 2009.

Bullington also bases her support on the candidate's character. "I love Sumi [Kailasapathy]. She's just the dearest, nicest, sweetest person." Bullington thinks as highly of Lumm: "She's honest and fearless."

Attorney Irv Mermelstein, on the other hand, was motivated purely by a single issue: the city's Footing Drain Disconnection Program, which he blames for wet basements in his southwest-side neighborhood. In addition to starting a website and quarreling with city attorneys, he made his first-ever local political contribution last year: $500 to Jack Eaton.

"I made the decision to support another candidate before I met Jack Eaton [because] it was my specific goal to defeat Marcia Higgins," Mermelstein says. As for Eaton, "he's a straight shooter, he's a lawyer, and he's critical of the FDD program. I hope he does the right thing and repeals the ordinance so there're no further FDDs and there's relief for people who've had FDDs: restoring their properties with monetary or other arrangements." (The city staff is now studying the program and is due to report to council this summer.)

With such wide gaps between their views, it's rare for anyone to give to candidates from both sides. But downtown property owner Ed Shaffran has not only given small amounts to both sides (a total of $900 in the past five years), he's twice given to both Jane Lumm and her opponent. "I gave Steve Rapundalo a couple hundred bucks and sent a letter out to my friends asking them to support Steve. A week later, Jane Lumm says she's running, so I sent Jane a check for a couple hundred bucks and a letter to my friends asking them to support her.

"Steve was upset with me, but what could I do? She's my friend!"

Two major donors, Peter Heydon and Dennis Dahlmann, also give both ways. Heydon didn't respond to interview requests, but Dahlmann—the life partner of Observer publisher Patricia Garcia—says his overriding issue is downtown development. As the owner of the Campus Inn and other high-profile properties downtown, including the City Center Building, Key Bank Building, and 301 East Liberty, Dahlmann says his "primary concern has been the massive big box student apartment buildings going up downtown. Ann Arbor is a college town. We're not Manhattan, and the student buildings going up at 413 East Huron and on South University

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City Council's Top Fundraisers

Ranked by average raised per election, 2009-2013

	races	total raised	average raised
Jane Lumm	2	$53,214	$26,607
Sally Hart Petersen	1	$16,728	$16,728
Chuck Warpehoski	1	$12,341	$12,341
Jack Eaton	3	$27,916	$9,305
Sabra Briere	3	$21,982	$7,327
Mike Anglin	3	$23,270	$6,882
Margie Teall	2	$12,300	$6,150
Steve Kunselman	3	$13,902	$4,634
Sumi Kailasapathy	2	$8,686	$4,343
Christopher Taylor	3	$0	$0*

** Taylor raised $14,719 for his last contested election, in 2008.*

Petersen

Warpehowski

PHOTOS: J. ADRIAN WYLIE, EXCEPT CHUCK WARPEHOSKI PHOTO BY MARK BIALEK

at Forest are out of character and scale with the rest of downtown."

So Dahlmann supports candidates "who are opposed to these big-box buildings." But though Hieftje led the rezoning that facilitated the construction boom, Dahlmann gives to him as well. "He is a longtime friend," Dahlmann explains. "And he's done many good things for the city. For example, Ann Arbor is solvent following the Great Recession, unlike many other Michigan cities."

Some see strings attached to Dahlmann's gifts. "I don't know many people who contribute to do something specific," says Joan Lowenstein, "except Dennis Dahlmann, who gives to people who do what he wants. Recently, [what he wants] is to prevent any hotels from competing" with his Campus Inn and Bell Tower Hotel.

"I can't stop anyone from building a by-right hotel," says Dahlmann. "But the economics of the deal can." And he says the candidates he supports "are made fully aware that [my] support is unconditional."

Kunselman

Kailasapathy

Given the disparity among most contributors' views of the current mayor, it's no surprise they're divided on who should be his successor.

"I will not support Kunselman," says Lowenstein. "He's all about revenge politics. I would support Taylor and Briere. They're both thoughtful and act logically."

"Sabra is a good listener," Hodesh agrees. "She could be a good mayor. And Christopher Taylor would be an excellent mayor."

Not everybody thinks so. "If I could find somebody to run against Taylor, I would," says Bullington. "His rhetoric is so derogatory." Griswold concurs. "I don't respect Taylor. My first choice for mayor would be Jack Eaton, but he's not planning on [running]."

The contributors are likewise divided on what issues they believe are most critical for the city's future. "It's whether we're willing to spend money on transit, like the Amtrak station and the [proposed high-speed] connector," says Lowenstein. "That's what'll spur development."

"We need intelligent development, buildings, and transportation," says Rad Smith. "Ann Arbor is clearly in a position to become a center in southeastern Michigan by picking up some of the slack from Detroit's decline. We're not a quaint little college town. We're a small city."

The anti-Hieftje contributors see a host of other issues as more important—and not just hiring more police and firefighters. "The streets," Bullington says. "They have been in really bad shape since '08."

"A functional council," says Griswold. "It's been a dysfunctional organization for at least the last five years."

"Unfunded pension liabilities," says Shaffran. "We have to stop elaborate pension plans on a going-forward basis."

With the contributors so divided, it's hard to see how either side could produce a mayoral candidate capable of uniting them, much less uniting the council to undertake meaningful action.

"It's a shame to see such polarization on city council," concludes Smith. "You're either pro- or anti-mayor, and there's no middle ground. I foresee a glum future."

It will certainly be an expensive future. Thanks to a year-end gift from the Republican-dominated state legislature, donors will be able to give more than ever to their favorite candidates this year: in December, Governor Snyder signed a law that doubles the maximum legal contributions to mayoral and city council candidates. With the city so divided, the 2014 election will again be a contest of ideas—but also, more than ever before, a contest of money. ■

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BACK on TRACK

Larry Webster gets Road & Track up to speed.

by Jan Schlain

A race car crouches in the lobby of *Road & Track's* south-side office. "That's a real McLaren, from '89," Larry Webster says. "That thing on the wall is [a body panel] from a real 1966 Ford GT40."

When the Hearst Corporation moved *Road & Track* from Los Angeles to Ann Arbor in 2012, it was taken as given that saving money was the main motive. The magazine is in the same office park as Hearst's *Car and Driver,* long based here, and the magazines share a boss and sales department. But they remain editorial competitors, and Hearst didn't stint when it came to showing what the newcomer is about. "This is the church of automobiles," says Webster. "We wanted, when people came in, [for them] to feel excited to be here."

Webster does. A young-looking forty-three, he greeted me at the door dressed in jeans and a sweater. Less than two years after Hearst moved him over from its *Popular Mechanics,* he's taken a magazine that had drifted off course, stomped on the gas, and steered it back on track.

Not that he puts it that way. "When sports car racing started fifty years ago, there was a high 'gentleman quotient' to it," he explains as he shows me around the office. "There was a style to it." His predecessors "tried to retain that, and they did."

Whether that was a good thing "depended on who you talked to," he adds. "To some people, it came across as stodgy. To some people, it came across as proper.

"We just thought: You need to loosen up a bit."

On jalopnik.com, Matt Hardigree was much more blunt. He called *Road & Track* "the best [car] buff book brand in North America"—but also called the version Webster inherited "the worst buff book in North America."

But Hearst didn't just buy Webster race cars—it bought him a new staff. The first person he called after getting the job was Sam Smith, a former assistant editor at *Automobile* whose work he'd admired for years.

Webster calls Smith "a modern Tom Wolfe," and I saw what he meant reading Smith's piece in the February *Road & Track* about driving an old Jaguar cross-country. I also felt a touch of heaven looking at Clark Vandergrift's aerial photograph of the Alpine Loop in the San Juan Mountains in Colorado. And I cried reading Steven Cole Smith's hard-hitting feature on former NASCAR drivers succumbing to suicide and dementia from repetitive head traumas suffered during years of racing.

On jalopnik.com, Matt Hardigree was blunt. He called Road & Track *"the best [car] buff book brand in North America"—but also called the version Webster inherited "the worst buff book in North America."*

The head trauma piece is something I'd expect from the *New York Times,* not from a magazine that feeds the fantasies of would-be racers. Racing legend Denise McCluggage calls Webster's decision to publish it "a very important thing. It's clear that Larry intends to do journalism."

Now that he's made *Road & Track* more serious—not to mention smarter, funnier, and better looking—all Webster has to do is win a new generation of readers.

"I hired Larry at *Car and Driver,*" recalls former *C/D* editor Csaba Csere. "He was a gofer, originally"—one of the young car nuts who do scut work like gassing and cleaning the test cars.

"I don't know if Csaba hired me as much as I forced him to hire me," jokes Webster. He earned a mechanical engineering degree at Lehigh, worked for a couple years—and then came back to *C/D* for a second stint as a gofer. "I just sort of rolled the dice," he says.

Webster, who grew up in New Jersey, says that he's been obsessed with cars "for as long as I can remember." Buying his first one—a Dodge Daytona Turbo Z—was "like a first love." But while gofers get to drive all kinds of cars on loan from the manufacturers, that doesn't mean they can afford to buy cars of their own.

"I deferred all my college loans," Webster remembers, "and when that period was about ending, and I couldn't really afford [to work for] five bucks an hour anymore, I was paying my car off with a credit card. It was definitely a dicey time."

But his bet paid off: "Somebody quit at *Car and Driver,* and I became a technical editor." He held the job for nine years. From 2002 to 2005, he was also the on-camera talent, scriptwriter, and stunt driver for Car and Driver Television.

"I got thrown into the role," Webster recalls with a smile. "I'm no actor. I'm not comfortable in front of the camera. I can talk to people. I can do public speaking. But looking back, I am so glad I don't have to do that [anymore. The shows] are so bad!"

Webster was automotive editor at *Popular Mechanics,* overseeing the development of the magazine's automotive content across print, web, broadcast, and tablet platforms, when Hearst bought *Road & Track* in 2011. He was offered the editor-in-chief's job soon afterward.

The magazine's longtime editor had retired a couple of years earlier, and it was drifting. Hearst wanted Webster to get it back on track.

"They really value the written word, and they really value a high-quality product," he says. "If you look at their portfolio of magazines, there are all these benchmarks in their segment—it's *Esquire,* it's *Popular Mechanics,* it's *Better Homes and Gardens*. It's a very high level that you have to meet."

Webster and Smith sat down with their editorial director from Hearst. "We said, 'What do we want this to be?' " Webster recalls. "We hashed it out right there. And they said, 'OK.' I thought there would be this big corporate approval process we had to deal with, but no."

The plan was simple: make everything better. "We wanted to make sure that the writing, photography, and the whole design was a high-quality magazine," says Webster. "It was good before—I don't want to say that it wasn't—we just wanted to modernize it and make it that home for long-form journalism and investigative journalism that you don't really see" in car magazines.

Compared to its corporate cousin, *Car and Driver, Road & Track* is "maybe a little more for the rabid [car] guy," Webster says. His old employer is "more 'New cars A to Z,' " he says, while *Road & Track* focuses "more on the higher end, the luxury, the performance cars.

"We do more motor sports. We do more vintage. So it's a slightly different cocktail … If we do our job right, people will still want to get both *Car and Driver* and *Road & Track.*

"The amazing thing about Hearst is the freedom they've given us," Webster adds. "They've really given ourselves the noose to hang ourselves on."

"I was living in Chicago," Sam Smith recalls. "I'd been freelancing for a couple of years for a variety of different outlets—I was doing work for *Esquire,* the *New York Times, Wired,* and a lot of stuff for *Car and Driver.*

"Larry called me one evening and told me what he was doing … [to] take a really old, really storied magazine and breathe new life into it. My first thought was how crazy an opportunity it was. My second thought was, 'There is no way I can say no to this.'

"I remember sitting down with my wife

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after he called, and she said, 'Well OK, are you interested?' I said 'Yeah.' We talked for a little bit, and it's funny—it never even came up about where it was. We had lived in Ann Arbor before"—they met when both worked at *Automobile*—"but it was such a no-brainer decision that it could have been on the moon."

Webster and Smith recruited the rest of

Sam Smith was living in Chicago when Webster asked him to return to Ann Arbor. "It was such a no-brainer decision," Smith recalls, "that it could have been on the moon."

the staff together. "Basically we just sat down and made a list of all the people who we knew in the industry who were really, really talented," Smith says. "People we wanted to work with. We ended up getting an awful lot of them, which I think surprised both of us."

A special issue on the fiftieth anniversary of the Porsche 911 last year included learned contributions by everyone from former race driver Sam Posey to Peter Schutz, the American CEO who saved the 911 from extinction. Smith himself wrote about driving a pair of hair-raising 911-based racecars. But there was also a snarky flow chart illustrating the various ways a driver can spin the rear-engined car, and a list of "911-Driving Douchebags on the Silver Screen."

"We've used writers from *Vanity Fair,* from *Rolling Stone,*" says Webster. "We just brought a guy in who was executive editor at *Playboy* … I'm always looking.

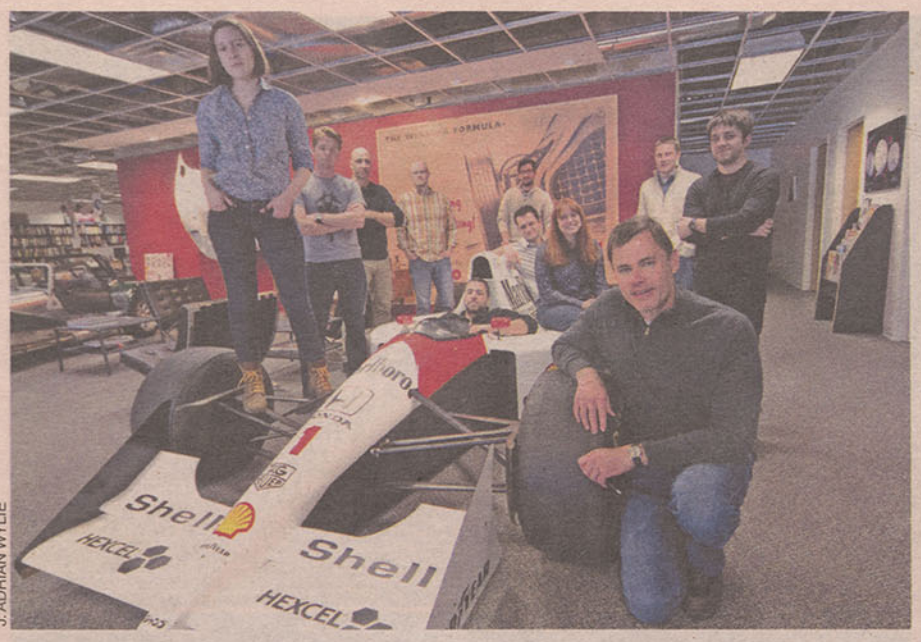
"Just yesterday I was reading *Men's Journal,* and there was a river guide who wrote about guiding Jim Harrison and another author. This guide wants to be a writer, and he wrote this brilliant piece. I grabbed it, went right over to Sam and said, 'Read this.' He came back, and we said: I wonder if this guy likes cars."

One person who did turn out to like cars was John Krewson, previously sports editor of theonion.com. The satiric website was consolidating and wanted Krewson to move from New York to Chicago. But then a little work he'd done for jalopnik.com brought him to Webster's attention.

"Larry called me—it was pretty much out of nowhere," says the soft-spoken Krewson—"I still don't know who's been spreading those lies—wanting to know if I'd be interested in coming to Michigan and *Road & Track.*

"Now, I've been reading *Road & Track* since … literally before I can remember. All my life." So instead of Chicago, he moved to Ann Arbor, where he now lives "in a nice little house in the country. It's about half what I paid for my apartment in New York, and it's roughly seven or eight times as big." With his background

J. ADRIAN WYLIE



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Webster with his staff at *Road & Track's* south-side office. "If you look at [Hearst Corporation's] portfolio of magazines, there are all the benchmarks in their segment," he says. "It's a very high level you have to meet."

in comedy, he says, "I like to think that I help lighten the tone."

Webster also vamped up the graphics. "The design and appearance of the magazine is just as important if not more so to a reader's enjoyment," he emailed after our meeting. "We are, I think, very lucky in this regard because Dave Speranza joined us a year ago. Speranza came from *Bicycling* magazine and he's a huge talent. Instead of going to an outside consultancy to redesign the magazine and logo, Dave did all of it … his designs make you want to read the words and of course cars are hugely visual."

While they were at it, they updated roadandtrack.com. The new look is "this continuous rolling scroll, which we think works really well on the web," says Webster. "It's actually designed for your phone—we get 25 percent of our traffic on the phone, if you can imagine."

Online traffic is up 30 percent, and Webster—who considers the online changes as important as what he's done in print—wants to build it further.

The magazine and website reach different audiences. "The overlap between the print and digital [readerships] is small—it's like 20 percent," Webster says. And, of course, readers experience them differently. "The time that somebody spends on the website is maybe ten or fifteen minutes," he says, "but the average time someone spends with the printed magazine is eighty minutes. So it's a much different immersive experience."

Founded in 1947, *R&T* is America's oldest car magazine, and the writers are conscious of that history. While trying to attract new readers, they don't want to alienate the ones who've hung on with the magazine for decades.

One Webster addition seems to bridge the generation gap effortlessly: Bob Lutz, the octogenarian Freedom Township resident whom the magazine bills, accurately, as "the world's most outspoken car guy." His back page column, "Go Lutz Yourself," offers blunt, politically incorrect, and often hilarious answers to readers' questions, like "What vehicle should an 18-year-old college student like myself use as an everyday commuter car?" or "I love driving sports cars, but I have a golden retriever … What are the best two-door sports cars with a real backseat?"

Lutz pointed the dog owner toward "higher-power" versions of the Ford Mustang and Chevrolet Camaro and the student to "any decent compact," or even the "unloved" little Chevy Aveo. True, he wrote, the Aveo is "a thoroughly unsexy econobox. But then, your current ride"—an old pickup truck—"isn't a turn-on, either."

"I think [Larry's] doing a good job," says Csere, his former boss. "I'm pleasantly surprised at how readable the magazine is and how interesting it is. Every issue I've picked up, I've found things in it that I wanted to read that I didn't necessarily see elsewhere."

Webster says they're getting "a lot of positive feedback" from readers about the change. "We get people who come in and say, 'This is the first time I've read the thing cover-to-cover in twenty years.' " So far, though, numerical validation is harder to come by.

Webster was surprised to learn that Hearst didn't particularly want to boost *R&T*'s circulation—it promises advertisers a base rate of 600,000 issues per month and wasn't interested in offering discounts or giveaways to go beyond that. Another historic metric of a magazine's success, newsstand sales, is itself fading into history, Webster says, "because the physical newsstands are disappearing." Still, he and his bosses are encouraged to see more people paying for the magazine: "The number of free issues that our circulation department gives out to maintain rate base … is in the single digits, well under 5 percent."

Csere assumes that Hearst has "a multiyear time frame" for *Road & Track*'s editorial transformation to pay off financially. But that's out of Webster's hands, so he's not going to worry about it.

"At the end of the day, there's not much you can do but make the magazine that you're proud of," he says. "And, hopefully, it works." ■

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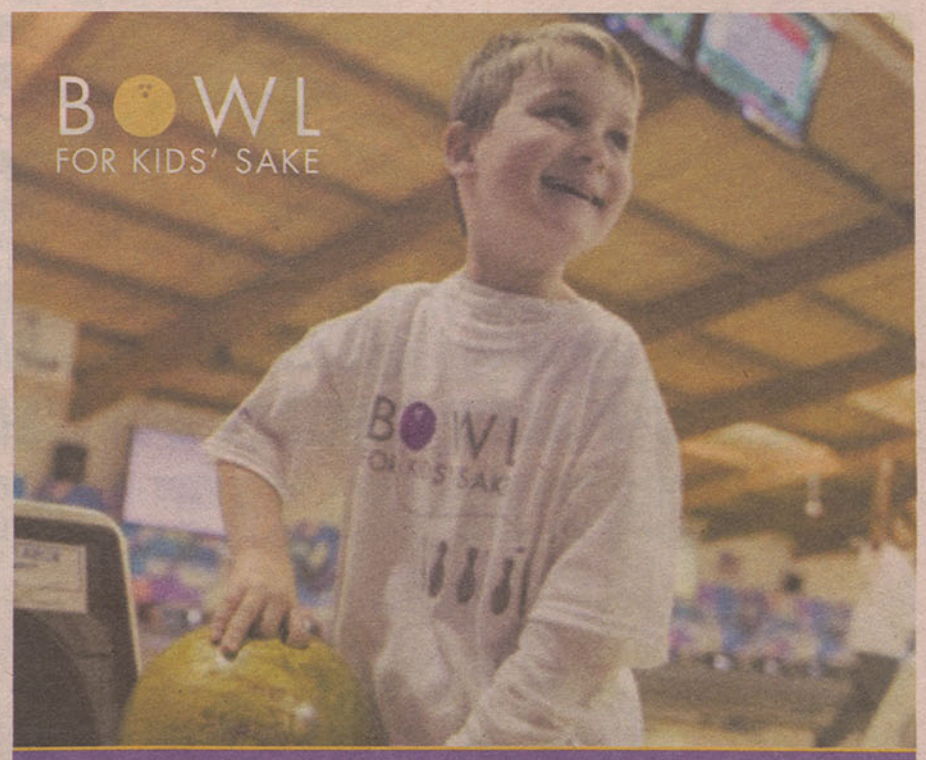

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KANGAROOS ON ANN ARBOR–SALINE RD.

The amazing Creature Conservancy

by Anita LeBlanc

Armadillos in a basement, swans in a pond, sloths on the ceilings, kangaroos in a field, kids in a classroom, an alligator in a van. Is this place a zoo, an animal sanctuary, a traveling circus, or a school?

"It's hard to put a name on it," admits Steve Marsh, the president and head curator of the Creature Conservancy. "We've got zoo elements, nature center elements, but a classroom feel. If you figure out an easy way to describe us, let us know."

The conservancy is a nonprofit located on a twenty-three-acre campus kitty-corner from the Washtenaw Farm Council grounds. Its entrance is framed by a windmill and small fenced dog park. Three farm-style buildings house the conservancy's classroom, along with Animal Kingdom Veterinary Hospital, Dogwood Veterinary Referral Center, and Creature Comforts Bed & Bath. Inside, the sloths—Poco, Annie, and Slo Poke—hang beneath soaring cathedral ceilings. "People come here for years, and don't realize that sloths are above them," says Kim Ellis, conservancy vice president and mammal curator.

The Marshes' romance with wildlife reached a new level of commitment when they took in an abandoned alligator.

In warmer weather, black swans serenely glide across a nearby pond, while parrots perch in an outdoor aviary. Muntjac deer share another aviary with the vultures. In the winter, some birds and animals vacation in an oversized barn; others wait there for habitats to be built for them in the campus's largest facility.

That enormous two-story building houses most of the animal residents—among them hissing cockroaches, iguanas, ball pythons, and Al the alligator. A habitat is currently under construction for the kangaroos, Tulip and Maybelline, and Benny, the Parma wallaby. Plans for porcupine, coyote, arctic fox, and red fox habitats are underway. As a work in progress, it's not yet open to the public—Ellis says just when it will be is contingent on funding.

The animal passion behind the Creature Conservancy began, appropriately enough, with a romance. Vicki Daldin, a veterinarian with a lifelong interest in exotic animals, moved to Ann Arbor in 1988 to work at two vet clinics. She was prompted by friends to meet Steve Marsh, a Saline-based exotic pet store owner who also presented animal education programs. "I went to his store," she recalls, "and we started to meet every other Wednesday for lunch and talk about exotic animals."

The couple eventually married. Steve sold his pet store to finance the 1993 opening of Animal Kingdom, Vicki's vet practice, in a small building at its current site. The 3,000-square-foot facility that replaced it was built in 2006. The Marshes worked together over the years to build the practice, with Steve handling the business side. Steve's focus eventually shifted to being the househusband and chief of child care as they welcomed their offspring—Eli, now fifteen, and Ella, twelve—into their nest.

The Marshes' romance with wildlife reached a new level of commitment on August 5, 2005. That morning, a wooden crate was discovered at Animal Kingdom's door. Inside was Al the alligator.

At that point, Al already weighed ten pounds (he now weighs about eighty-six). The Marshes figured that, like many unwisely selected pets, he had been abandoned when he became too aggressive or expensive to keep. Rescue facilities couldn't care for such a large animal, and zoos weren't interested. But Al had no fear of humans, and that would have put him in danger had he been released in a swamp.

Al became the first of Creature Conservancy's 590 residents (not counting the cockroaches). He now lolls about in his heated indoor cement swamp, surrounded with foliage native to his natural surroundings. A boardwalk leads to what will be his private outdoor swamp this summer.

The pristine landscape and buildings are a testament to the hard work of Steve, Kim, and the conservancy's roughly three dozen volunteers. They're using pickaxes to help create Al's new swamp and other habitats, while wishing for a $5,000 trencher attachment for their Bobcat tractor.

Like Al, many of the animals are rescues. Slo Poke the sloth was found in a trailer park, while Benson and Miehiera, the arctic foxes, were poor pet choices for their owners' circumstances. Two ball pythons were found in a Dumpster, other pythons and iguanas were left behind in U-M dorm rooms.

Steve and Kim's multiple responsibilities—overseeing the animals and volunteers; maintaining and creating facilities; and running programs, events, and tours—leave little time for fundraising. Most of the conservancy's support comes from Animal Kingdom and Creature Comforts, with Animal Kingdom also providing vet services. But the conservancy benefits from in-kind donations, including fresh fruits and vegetables from Whole Foods and occasional building materials and discounts from Lowe's for specific projects. Chelsea Lumber also gives occasional discounts. Idexx Labs donates all lab services. Unsolicited gifts and a few small grants add a little more to the coffers. The conservancy's tours, events, summer camps, and on-site and off-site educational programs also add income.

All the education programs involve human-animal interaction; a recent program at Google included two vans of select animals, along with Steve and volunteers. A preschool program began in January. The popular weeklong summer camps give elementary school kids the chance to learn about and meet the conservancy's more than seventy-five species of animals, while taking on responsibilities such as building salamander habitats.

The public is welcome to tour the outdoor Wild Life Park and visit a wide variety of domestic and exotic animals at no charge, though donations are welcome. Behind-the-scene tours of the entire campus are available for a modest fee.

The Creature Conservancy's mission, Steve says, is "to work within our community to create personal connections between people, animals, and their shared environment. It's easy for people to kill one another because they demonize [each other]. We can easily do the same with animals, but when we personalize animals and teach people that they have homes, social drives, purposes, and communities just like them, it opens them up to saving animals and the planet."

A self-described introvert, Steve nonetheless serves as the conservancy's public face. His passion for its mission helps get him through presentations—but he couldn't do it without the support of the animals themselves. "I'm really not much of a people person," he says. "I can comfortably talk in front of ten thousand people if I'm holding an armadillo. If I'm not holding an armadillo, I don't want to be there."

The Creature Conservancy has relationships with multiple zoos, including a close one with the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, as well as animal rescues and other animal-related organizations. Steve has appeared with Jack Hanna on the David Letterman show; Peter and Piper, the coyote pups he brought along, howled in his hotel room, mistaking the sound of Manhattan traffic for their welcoming siblings.

"It's a privilege to work with these people and animals," Steve says. As for the conservancy, "I like to think it's going to be here long after we're gone.

"We don't think about what we get out of it, but what we can do for it." ■

Steve Marsh and Kim Ellis with Tulip and Benny.

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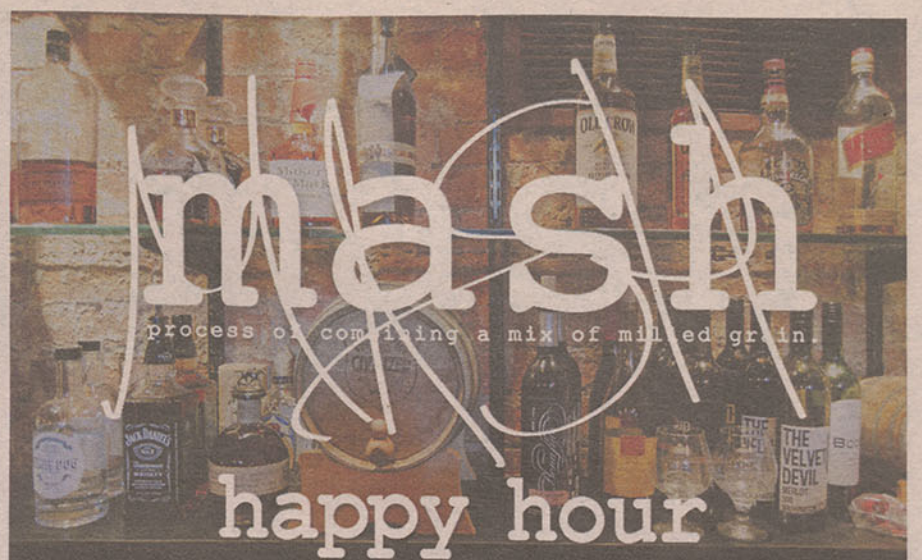

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Aventura

Good things on small plates

Open for business under the giant TAPAS sign on Washington St. only since November, Aventura has already established its ambition and potential to provide an outstanding night out. Eating here is a social adventure, with communal tasting experiences that promote discussion and excitement. Could it be the tipping-point joint Ann Arbor has been waiting for to be truly "in the game" with Chicago, D.C., and Portland, if not New York and L.A.?

Sprawling across several storefronts, its elegant interior brick-walled and open, it manages to feel like both a church transept and an old-world wine cave. A dark floral mosaic on one wall sets a dramatic tone. Long bins of fruit slices lining the bar, servers hoisting elaborate multispout porron-style wine decanters, and standing half-carved dark red hams give you a peek at the menu before you're even seated.

Lots of local places offer small plates—some with Euro and even Latin flair—but none match Aventura for real-deal tapas building blocks like Spanish olives, cheeses (sheep, cow, and goat), and charcuterie (Iberico and Serrano ham, dry salami, and sausages galore). If you're new to the cuisine, there are oodles of bilingual menu items to peruse and discuss. Even more helpful are the knowledgeable servers (they take twelve-page tests!), who will likely suggest you lubricate the ordering process with a Spanish-style cocktail, like the sherry-tinged rye whiskey Olor Oso Conmigo with housemade fig syrup and a lovely sage leaf floating atop. It's good, but even better is the Aventura take on the centuries-old Sazerac that combines a swirl of absinthe with whiskey and bitters for a glorious magenta powerhouse of a drink. Also available are a wide selection of wines by the glass.

Aventura is exciting, but a little frenetic—this is definitely event dining, full of debate about the food: What to order, what's coming next, should we order more?

Can you remember the last time you ordered a two-dollar appetizer at an upscale restaurant? *Pintxos* start that low at Aventura and top out at four bucks for a few bites of varied meat, seafood, cheese, and fruit combos, skewered and stuck into a slice of bread with a slosh of aioli (or, in one iteration, creamy honeydew melon mousse). *Huevo y gamba* boasted a yummy, creamy-yolked deviled egg and spicy grilled shrimp on its little stick. A small starter of mild *Mahón* cheese, served creamy at room temperature, paired perfectly with generous cubes of super-flavorful and not-too-sweet guava paste. An out-and-out steal was a $5 bowl of hearty kale-potato-chorizo-bean soup with rich tomato broth made even meatier with a bit of bacon. Served with bread, it's almost a meal in itself.

Before we knew how filling the soup would be, we'd already ordered several more small plates. A platoon of Bluetooth earpiece-wearing runners brought them out in succession. Exciting, but a little frenetic—this is definitely event dining, full of debate about the food: What to order, how to balance a meal, what's coming next, should we order more? It's a great place for family and friends willing to share plates and bites—for a business meeting or blind date, not so much.

We sampled two of the five listed salads on a first visit, and couldn't decide which was the most fresh and delicious: Brussels sprout leaves tossed in a sherry vinaigrette with sweet pickled grape halves, Marcona almond pieces, and Manchego cheese; or arugula with hazelnuts, dried cherries, Valdeón bleu cheese, and spiced poached pears (red and white, and the juice goes into the house sangrias). We couldn't fathom, though, why the arugula cost $12—twice as much as the sprout leaves. Except for the poached pears, isn't this basically the omnipresent Michigan salad on a study abroad year in Spain?

Tapas-standard bacon-wrapped dates are customized here with a spot of chorizo sausage and a bed of lightly garlicky-peppery romescu sauce. We quickly ploughed through them all and saw several other tables finishing off theirs as well (considering the vastness of the fifty-plus-item menu, it's notable how popular these meaty dates are). Octopus medallions cooked with oil, salt, paprika, and potatoes at high heat made for a darn-near addictive version of *pulpo a la Gallega* (Galicia's signature dish). Next time, though, I won't order short ribs and fried potatoes at the same time—talk about meat-and-carb overload!

The three of us had already eaten so much that groans arose from our table when the final two plates arrived: six slider-size burgerettes on fluffy brioche buns. Three were BBQ pork—our lame attempt to get in the spirit of the roast suckling pig platter we didn't get a chance to try. More memorable were the tender sliced lamb sandwiches with caramelized onions, lemon aioli, a slip of arugula for color, and a finishing touch of Manchego cheese. I figured we'd take some home, but hardly a crumb was left.

Back a few nights later to try the communal paella, we went lighter on the starters. Roasted fennel tossed with oranges, olives, and mint proved as tasty as the other salads we'd sampled, although a bit more oily. Bright steamed spinach with pine nuts and raisins had a fresh aura, but again, a lot of citrus-flavored oil.

The heavily dressed vegetables had been filling, but that's not why a substantial amount of our paella was left uneaten. The seafood on top was good (even the beady-eyed prawns) and the tiny peas sweet and adorable, but the rice on the bottom of the skillet was burnt beyond recognition. The problem could have been too much peppery red sauce, or maybe it was a second-string cook on a snowy January night at a new restaurant.

"That's how they do it Spain," our server claimed when shown our growing pile of discarded blackened rice. An expert I consulted later disagreed, and the staff did acknowledge that not all customers like it so "well done." Perhaps Aventura will rethink this preparation—$45 is a lot to pay for just the top of a paella.

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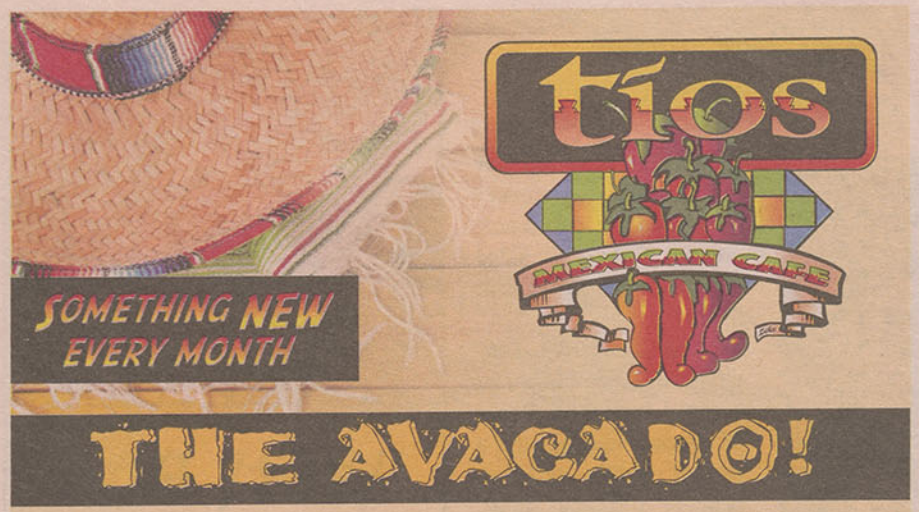

A TRUE DELIGHT

Chef's Table by Harriet Seaver

A ripe avocado has such a perfect creamy, nutty texture and flavor that it can really stand on its own epicurally. But it can also be a true delight to work into a menu in a variety of hot and cold applications.

Our goal is to feature the avocado flavor in each recipe, taking care not to mask it. Think guacamole – lots of avocados, a little lemon, garlic salt and pepper. You can embellish to your heart's content, but it's not necessary if your avocados are right.

The fruit of the avocado is not the only usable part of the plant either. The long leathery leaves of its tree can be used as a seasoning (common in south-central Mexican cooking). You can use them fresh or dried, added whole (as a bay leaf), or crumbled to infuse an anise-like taste. They're not easy to come by locally but are available online at a variety of sites. I've used both the Atlanta Spice Company and The Chile Guy with good results.

A SMART SUBSTITUTION

Baking Corner by Jessie Seaver

Avocados are a great substitution to add to your baked goods, not only for flavor but nutritional value as well. Avocados are a great source of potassium, are rich in folic acid and vitamin K, and have been shown to lower cholesterol levels.

Baking with avocados can require some experimentation, but you can usually assume a one-to-one substitution of avocado for butter. Avocados have a high water content, so you don't have to worry about dry or hard treats. However, they may have a slightly green tint, which I find pretty and unique. Exchanging avocado for butter also opens up more recipes for a vegetarian or vegan diet. Another smart and easy substitution you can make is to use avocado oil instead of melted butter, margarine, or any other oil a recipe calls for. Avocado oil contains heart-healthy fats and has the highest smoke point of all the common cooking oils. Avocado oil can be found in most local grocery stores in the health food section.

A TREAT TO EAT

by Tim Seaver

Celebrating the avocado in February seemed odd to me too, but those knowledgeable folks at Frog's Holler Produce said February is one of the best months for the fruit. Selecting avo's is easy. They should be firm but not hard (soft means bruises or rot) and heavy for their size. Color doesn't really matter – bright green can be riper than dark sometimes.

Cut in half the long way through the stem spot and around the pit. If it doesn't cut easily, it's not ripe. Twist to separate. The pit should come out easily with a spoon. Use a large serving spoon to scoop between the flesh and skin. Cut into slices, add a little salt and pepper, and you're good to go. A spritz of lemon or lime juice will keep it from browning for a while, but if you cut it, you should eat it.

Avocados ripen at room temperature and will keep, whole, in the fridge for several days. Enjoy!

FATHER TEQUILA

by Jeremy Seaver

About this time each year I start getting a serious case of cabin fever. Spring seems like it's right around the corner, but we still have at least another month before we can begin enjoying the outdoors again. For me, a good tequila conjures memories of sunshine and warm weather, and it's just the thing to help me through the last dregs of winter. Vida Blanco is my drink of choice when I need cheering up. It's light and fruity and reminds me that the cold can't last forever.

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Restaurant Reviews

Dessert provided sweet balm: fluffy hot churros encrusted with cinnamon sugar and served with three phenomenal dipping sauces: sweet wine, crème anglaise, and rich chocolate. Tiny specialty espresso-based coffees left us smiling and sighing contentedly.

Yes, we'd had a stumble or two along the way, but this is a very young restaurant taking on centuries-old cuisine. It has charisma and rough authenticity on most fronts, excellence on several. The remaining fine-tuning should be well worth the wait.

—M.B. Lewis

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Café Felix

Reinvention

Though Café Felix has graced Main Street since 1997, I had never stopped in. I'm not really sure why—perhaps I imagined it more coffeehouse than restaurant or perhaps the inset front never attracted my eye the way the sidewalk-hugging windows of Main Street's other restaurants had. However, an October *Ann Arbor News* article about owner Felix Landrum's drive to revamp and reinvent his restaurant—hiring new staff (including a general manager, chef Joe Van Wagner, and bartender/mixologist Jude Walker), and upgrading service and furnishings—sparked my interest. After a number of visits over this winter's holiday season, I obviously can't say how the new Café Felix is different from the old—but I can attest that the reinvention has kindled a fresh sizzle in that part of town.

My first visit, with a group of friends, was during Thanksgiving weekend. The dining room mimics early twentieth-century images of a French bistro—wooden bar, banquettes, brass railings, a trompe l'oeil mural reflected in the mirrored wall opposite. Choosing to sit in the front window overlooking Main Street, we awkwardly crowded around two round tables pulled together.

Our visit happened to coincide with a short, temporary list of new dishes the chef was considering—by soliciting patrons' responses—for the permanent winter menu. First, though, cocktails were in order.

The four men began with exhausting requests for each one's personal take on the standard martini, including one with Two James gin, produced by Felix Landrum's brother at Two James Distillery in Detroit. All declared themselves satisfied. My friend's Cosmopolitan came out lightly tinted rather than neon magenta; neither too sweet nor too fruity, the cosmo, she declared, was the best she had tasted. My Vesper, a mix of New Amsterdam gin, vodka, Lillet Blanc, lemon juice, and Angostura bitters, was exactly what a cocktail should be—an appetite whetter that stimulated rather than sated with too much alcohol or sugar.

Our appetizers did the same. Though I found the crust a bit too doughy, the proscuitto and artichoke pizza was generous and tasty. The crab cakes, embellished with roasted pepper remoulade and a tangle of microgreens, were standard issue, but still delicious. We also enjoyed a seasonal bistro salad of curly endive, balsamic figs, candied walnuts, and pomegranate vinaigrette.

A couple of entrées, seemingly designed to startle, simply delighted. A bed of white chocolate mashed potatoes—an idea which frankly horrified me—beneath frenched pink lamb chops fortunately had no detectable hint of the candy. Octopus paella happily reminded those of us who love the flavor of the sea why we do. Sautéed sea scallops and duck confit were also nicely executed. Only the uninspired desserts—chocolate mousse and crepes with vanilla ice cream and cognac-apple compote—disappointed.

Our waiter that night seemed a bit overwhelmed by our table—he brought appetizers before cutlery and napkins, entrees before the wine, and we had to ask for the dessert menu—but was friendly and pleasant. By contrast, my waiter at a solitary lunch during the Christmas shopping season was one of the most professional I've encountered in Ann Arbor—solicitous without being overly so, helpful and knowledgeable and quite efficient.

At that lunch, I ordered a croque madame (a traditional French grilled cheese and ham sandwich topped with bechamel sauce and a fried egg), at the time not listed on the menu, though its male counterpart (monsieur, without the egg) was. Definitely a fork-and-knife sandwich, particularly with the crusty bread used by the kitchen, it was a rich, decadent treat, accompanied by some equally sinful crisp, thin fries. Sitting again in the front window, this time at a new, square table, watching the large flakes fall on an already snowy street, I couldn't have imagined a more perfect holiday lunch. A glass of wine, readily available, would have been the cherry on top of the sundae, but I still had a long list to get through, and I didn't want to get too comfortable.

At my next visit, dinner with my husband shortly before the new year, I did relax—sank, really—into a rear banquette. The night before we'd hosted our annual holiday party for friends and family. After a season cooking for others, enjoyable as it was, the pleasure of being served was luxurious.

Though Café Felix has graced Main Street since 1997, I had never stopped in. After a number of visits over this winter's holiday season, I obviously can't say how the new Café Felix is different from the old—but I can attest that its reinvention has kindled a fresh sizzle in that part of town.

We began again with cocktails. This time I ordered a Madame Bovary, a wonderful mix of Beefeater 24 gin, St. Germaine elderflower liqueur, lime juice, and a Pernod "gentle melt"—a large solid ice cube infused with the licorice-y alcohol. I had to ask what was meant by the "gentle melt," but I found the ice cube a continuing treat even after I'd sipped all the cocktail.

Handed a condensed and solidified menu, I recognized only a few of the plates we'd tried on our earlier visits. Pizzas made the cut, as did crab cakes and a salad or two, but I didn't recognize the rest of the items—more snacks and small plates than entrées—including popular French bistro standards (moules frites, steak-frites), new trends (pork belly, kale salad), and local sources (Sparrow Market, Werp Farm). With so many options, it took a bit of time—one cocktail—to decide, and we had to leave many interesting possibilities untried, but we finally settled on a mix of snacks, a small plate and an entrée, all to share, along with a bottle of wine.

The simple stalwart, fried calamari, arrived perfectly executed—lightly breaded and lightly fried, and nicely complemented by lemon aioli—though a bit pricey at $13 for a small portion. Potato croquettes with sweet onion aioli were also addictive, with crispy coatings and creamy interiors.

Deciding that the season's excesses now demanded at least some restraint, we passed up the pork belly with poached egg and apple compote in favor of the bacon-encrusted shrimp. The seared, wrapped jumbos on a bed of cauliflower-studded risotto were rich without being overly so and utterly delicious. Somewhat less rewarding was the chicken farcis—a chicken breast stuffed with black truffle mousse served on soft polenta with a poached egg, sauteed mushrooms, tomato confit, and chicken jus. Usually I avoid chicken breasts because they lack flavor and juiciness, but the waiter had praised it as his favorite entrée; though the dish was indeed savory and beautifully presented, it didn't change my mind about chicken breasts; next time I'll try the sole meunière or the Muscovy duck with its medley of vegetable accompaniments. Dessert again proved rather disappointing, the warm chocolate bread pudding rubbery and uninspired.

As a newcomer to the pleasures of Café Felix, I found the overall experience as exciting as the opening of a new restaurant. And perhaps the sprucing and fine-tuning and redesign has not just reanimated what existed but actually created a new entity. In any case, that last evening, settled deep into my seat, comfortably lulled by red wine and good food, wrapped up in a quiet conversation with my husband and protected against the dark cold of a winter night, I couldn't imagine a better place to be.

—Lee Lawrence

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www.cafefelix.com

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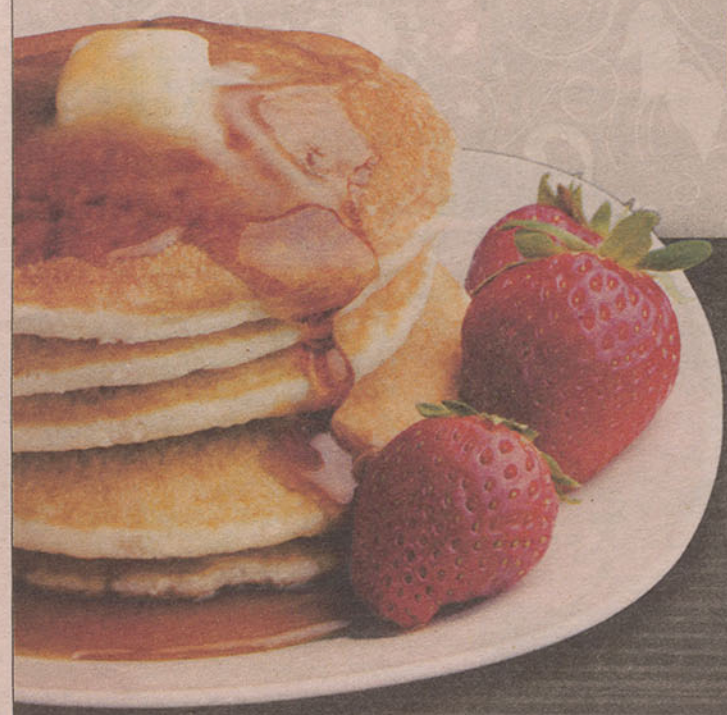

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Marketplace Changes

by Shelley Daily

Wolverine Evolution

West-side brewery adds food.

Back in 2008, E.T. Crowe's neighbor, Trevor Thrall, plunked down some bottles of beer on Crowe's dining room table. He and his friend Matt Roy had brewed it, and they wanted her help marketing it. A couple years, a lot of hard work, and one head brewer later, **Wolverine State Brewing Co.** opened in the former Big George's warehouse.

Crowe says "a lot went into the thought process" of locating the brewery on the west side. Though partially hidden from view, it's on a main drag a mile from U-M stadium. Trivia nights, live music, foosball, darts, and a party room that holds up to sixty people bring in an "eclectic mix," says brewmaster Oliver Roberts—from families to grad students to older customers.

For its first three years, Wolverine had no kitchen, though customers were encouraged to bring in takeout from nearby restaurants. Even so, the day they opened, "we had a long line of people outside the door," Crowe recalls.

At first, Crowe says, she was "reluctant" to add food because she wanted to keep the focus on the beer. But she's got a "learn as you go" philosophy: "You can have a business plan, a working outline of where you want to go," she says, "but in the end you need to listen to the market." Wolverine added a kitchen last year, and in December started serving sandwiches and daily specials.

Cofounders Thrall and Roy are still involved in monthly management meetings but now leave brewing to Roberts and the marketing to Crowe, a former Reinhart Realtor who is skilled at social media—her "A2 Beer Wench" blog with candid musings about life and beer has been visited more than 150,000 times.

The new food menu is the work of Matteo Melosi, a friend of Roberts, and tap room manager Josh Evans. They gave him two rules: no deep fryers and no grills. "It had 100 percent to do with Oliver and his clean, crisp beer," says Melosi. "I knew we needed to provide a very healthy product—food that really complemented the beer." No butter or oil is used in food preparation, explains Melosi, and he and sous chef Dylan Stockman use meats from Sparrow Market, fish from Monahan's, and locally grown produce. Melosi says their best-sellers so far are the blue corn tortilla nachos and house-smoked pulled pork.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Beer brain trust: Wolverine head brewer Oliver Roberts (with Gulo Gulo), kitchen manager Matteo Melosi, tap room manager Josh Evans, and co-owner E.T. Crowe.

Since the kitchen opened, Evans says "business has tripled." Plus, customers no longer need to dart across busy West Stadium Boulevard to bring back pizza to eat.

The Wolverine had another exciting end-of-year development. *DRAFT* magazine—"like the *Vogue* of beer magazines," Crowe says—named the Wolverine's Gulo Gulo India Pale Lager one of the "Top 25 Beers of 2013." Roberts had fine-tuned his recipe for the lager—named for the genus and species of the wolverine—since first introducing it in 2011. After investing $20,000 in new equipment, last summer the Wolverine began bottling Gulo Gulo. "[T]his superb version floored us," the magazine's reviewer wrote—adding that Gulo Gulo "immerses the senses in electrifying honeydew, peach, watermelon and orange before concluding with a classic, refreshing lager snap."

Crowe says she's getting calls from distributors in Chicago, New York, and Philadelphia who want to represent the brand but says that for now, the team is busy "managing growth" regionally, starting with the Detroit market, and balancing the brewery, tap room, and kitchen.

Gulo Gulo will account for 45 percent of the Wolverine's 2,200-barrel capacity in 2014, Roberts says. And there are at least a dozen other lager varieties available in the tap room on any given day—with a long list of rotating seasonal and special editions and always "our gateway—or lawn-mowing beer, I call it," Crowe says: Wolverine Premium Lager.

Because "we make in a year what Budweiser spills in a month," Roberts says, and because brewing a lager is a much slower process (it takes an average of six weeks) than brewing an ale, "there's no way to rush it." Keeping customers in the tap room happy and meeting demand for bottles is a balance. "It's not pleasant when we run out [of Gulo Gulo]," says Evans. "People come out just for that."

Wolverine State Brewing Co., 2019 W. Stadium, 369–2990. Mon.–Thurs. 4 p.m.–midnight, Fri.–Sat. noon–1 a.m., Sun. noon–10 p.m. (kitchen closes one hour earlier). wolverinebeer.com

All in the Family

Campus gets a Walgreens

Walgreens opened a two-story location across from the U-M's Central Campus on New Year's Eve. It's at the corner of State and North University in the former Michigan Book & Supply building—not far from where members of the Walgreen family might have walked to class.

The late Charles "Chuck" Walgreen Jr., son of Walgreens founder Charles Walgreen, was a 1928 U-M pharmacy graduate and a major university donor (the Walgreen Drama Center). His son Charles III followed in his footsteps in 1958, and grandson, Kevin Walgreen, is a 1984 U-M psychology grad and a senior vice president with the company. Though efforts to interview Kevin were rebuffed by corporate, the store's shift leader Caitlyn Yother cheerfully offered: "There's a chance that Kevin Walgreen might make it to the grand opening." That's scheduled for February 7.

As Yother leads a tour through the store, she points out the self-serve frozen yogurt station and the ICEE (slushie), Starbucks, and Coke Freestyle machines—all popular with the college crowd, she says. She rides the escalator upstairs to the pharmacy, which features an express station for online orders and a private immunization room. The upstairs also features a large section of U-M souvenirs and clothing as well as toiletries.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Walgreens manager Tracie Klotz demos the mix-your-own yogurt bar. Slushie, Starbucks, and Coke Freestyle machines are also big with its campus clientele.

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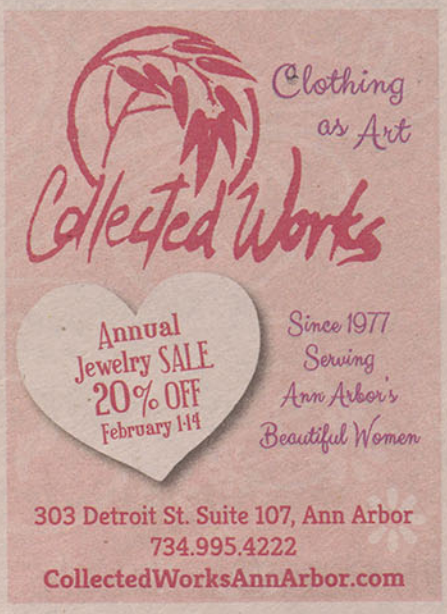

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Marketplace Changes

The rest of the inventory also reflects the store's campus market: when interviewed shortly after opening, Yother was having a hard time keeping ramen noodles and plastic party cups on the shelves. The store also sells other groceries, beer, and wine and will soon add a fresh foods cooler with fruits, salads, and sandwiches. A long counter with a half-dozen stools runs along the front window—an echo of the lunch counter that looked out on the Diag during the building's first life as a Kresge dime store.

With more than 8,000 Walgreens locations nationwide, the drugstore giant's biggest competitor is CVS Pharmacy—which opened steps away on South State in 2011. Why did Walgreens choose the same block? "It's really about what location is best," says district manager Kelli Oldham. And, she says, Walgreens wanted to be "right on campus."

Walgreens, 317 S. State, 352–3623. Mon.–Sat. 7 a.m. to midnight, Sun. 8 a.m.–10 p.m. Pharmacy: Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. walgreens.com

Briefly Noted

Austin McCurdy worked his way through college as a delivery driver for **Papa John's,** and, after a stint as a high school math teacher, he decided to return to the pizza business. Now he owns five Papa John's franchises in the Chicago area and three in Ann Arbor—all of them acquired in the last five years. The latest opened in December in Boulevard Plaza. The space is a former Hungry Howie's but "we ripped it to the studs," says McCurdy, "and installed a new high-efficiency oven." McCurdy, who splits his residency between Ann Arbor and Indiana, says the new location is already doing "double the sales volume of what we projected." The father of three young children says the west side is a "family pizzeria market niche."

Papa John's, 2145 W. Stadium (Boulevard Plaza), 741–7272. Daily 10 a.m.–midnight. papajohns.com

In the Works

After some thirty years at the corner of Stadium and South Industrial, **Kroger** failed to come to a lease agreement with the property's owners, and Boulder-based natural foods grocer **Lucky's Market** is slated to take its place in late 2014. The Ufer family—including attorney Robert P. Ufer, son of legendary U-M football announcer Bob Ufer—owns the property. Ufer says Kroger "was reluctant to come up to market rate" with a lease that had been "in place for a long time." He adds that "Kroger is a great organization, but we agreed as gentlemen to disagree."

"We're extremely disappointed we lost the lease on that building," says Kroger spokesperson Dale Hollandsworth. "We are always looking for new locations—it's an ongoing activity." He says all employees at that location will be offered jobs at other Kroger stores.

Lucky's was started in 2003 by husband-and-wife chefs Bo and Trish Sharon. "They'll invest substantially in refurbishing the space," Ufer says, and are "committed to local produce—and committed to local charities and organizations."

Business consultant and Ann Arbor resident Nick Ferris plans to open an **Old Carolina Barbecue Company** franchise in mid- to late February in the Cranbrook Village outbuilding currently shared by Potbelly subs and Tony Sacco's pizza. Ferris says he's known the Ohio-based company's founders for years.

Old Carolina touts itself as an authentic slow-smoked southern barbecue. The Ann Arbor location will be the ninth franchise and the first outside Ohio. Ferris says he plans to open more stores in the Ann Arbor area, including **Smoke the Burger Joint,** another Ohio franchise started by the Old Carolina founders.

Orange Leaf frozen yogurt is coming to Traver Village on Plymouth Road in part of the former Tree Town Toys space, according to a sign in the window. The Oklahoma City–based company is a "self-serve, choose-your-own-topping destination" with more than three hundred locations nationwide that serve froyo with a novel-looking spoon shaped like an orange shovel.

Closings

Firehouse Subs, a franchise that opened last March in the former White Market space on William Street, closed January 16. Jessica Hammond, who owned the store with her husband Doug, says the couple will "pursue other endeavors." "The thing we're saddest about is our customers," she says. "We got to know a lot of them on a personal level."

At the end of December a reader sent a news tip that **Annabelle,** a jewelry and accessories store on S. Main Street, next door to the M Den, was advertising deep discounts and appeared likely to close. One week later, a "For Lease" sign was in the front window, and necklace displays and most of the shelves were bare. The phone number to the store was no longer in service. The reader, a "townie and customer" who didn't want to be named, wrote in an email: "It is unfortunate that retail has difficulty on Main Street, it seems restaurants, especially higher end ones, are the only ones that can make a good go at it."

A fire destroyed the **Happy's Pizza** franchise on S. Main Street on January 7—a day of record-setting cold in Ann Arbor. A message to customers on the store's answering system said that the store "was closed until further notice" but they look forward to serving customers "when we reopen." ■

The Zingerman's Times

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Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.6060
Zingerman's Candy Manufactory	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.277.1922

www.Zingermans.com

Experts Agree: start planning now for a stress-free summer wedding

Trendy brides (and others!) in the know are booking special occasions at Cornman Farms' new event space!

According to reports from the *Times* society pages, rustic weddings are all the rage this year and sources trace the trend to Zingerman's Cornman Farms. It's hosting events for up to 300 people in it's historic pre-civil war barn and farmhouse, and on the grounds of it's lush gardens and pastures. In addition to a charming venue, Cornman also offers event planning to coordinate every aspect of any special occasion, including weddings as well as reunions, company parties, and more. Dates are filling fast – reserve now! **Visit www.cornmanfarms.com for more info, or call 734.619.8100 to get started!**

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News to Cheer: Zingerman's Creamery Shop Now Carries Wine and Beer!

Reports from the southside indicate that a homemade dinner for two was almost ruined when *someone* forgot to pick up a bottle of wine. The crisis was averted, however, because Zingerman's Creamery – a quick stop on way home! — now carries beer and wine. The selection includes fare from local and specialty crafters including: B Nectar, Arbor Brewing Company, Arcadia, Atwater, Dark Horse, Green Bush, JK Scrumpy, Northside, Oddside and more. Stop by and pick up wine and cheese for a romantic night in!

Lunch Time Crowd Hungry for Hungary, Storms Bakehouse

Zingerman's Bakehouse is giving southside lunchers what they demand: More Hungarian options! The menu now features:

Amy's Hungarian Tribute Sandwich
Soft pretzel bun with Hungarian cured bacon and smoked pork loin, Liptauer cheese spread, pickled Hungarian peppers, shaved onion and whole grain mustard. Available Mon-Sat.

Hot Hungarian Soups:
Tibor's Matzo Ball with goose broth (Tuesday); **Páloc Leves**, lamb, vegetable & sour cream (Wednesday); **Sólet** (aka, cholent) a traditional Jewish bean and barley stew flavored with smoked meat (Saturday).

Lángos (lon-gohsh):
A savory fried bread and popular Hungarian street food. Bushed with garlic and sour cream, sprinkled with fresh dill, topped with Hickory Smoked Ham, Marieke 1-year Gouda cheese, and a dusting of paprika! Available Tuesdays and Saturdays.

zingerman's gelato racks up frequent flyer miles

Mail Order Gelato Is Hot in 2014!

According to the sources at Zingerman's Mail Order, sales for shipping gelato coast to coast have gone up more than 35% over the last year, and those numbers are expected to rise over Valentine's Day when the gelato menu features a variety chocolate flavors.

Joining Zingerman's regular line-up, which includes a **Dark Chocolate gelato, rated Best in Michigan** by *Detroit Metro Times*, are Josh's Rocky Ride, featuring both chocolate and vanilla marshmallows handmade at Zingerman's Candy Manufactory, mixed in with Virginia peanuts; Chocolate Heat (dark chocolate with cinnamon, ancho chile and just enough cayenne to make it dangerous); Chocolate Balsamic Strawberry; Turtle (with Argentinian dulce de leche); and Cherry Chocolate Chip Sorbet (dairy-free!) made with Traverse City cherries.

Zingerman's gelato is also available at the Creamery, Delicatessen and Roadhouse.

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

rock 'n' roll

Congress

Dad punk

The members of Ypsilanti punk band Congress have at least ten former band projects between them, as well as a solo music act whose name stands on its own. But even as the men in Congress head toward middle age with most of those projects behind them, they prove that a group of thirty-somethings can still turn out ferocious, moody punk rock. There's little showmanship or artifice to the act, no misguided attempts to play out rock god fantasies. But for rock-solid riffs and unadulterated energy, Congress is hard to beat.

Congress lists R.E.M. and Fugazi as two of its top influences, and both can be clearly heard in the band's original tunes. Guitarist Eric Gallippo's darkly chiming guitar leads bear favorable comparison to those of Peter Buck, his R.E.M. counterpart. Although Gallippo certainly lends himself well to aggressive power chords and traditional solo shredding, his moodier, echo-laden leads add a sophistication that sets Congress apart from basic punk.

Bassist Ed Golembiewski and drummer Aaron Quillen contribute angular, aggressive rhythms that recall late-eighties Fugazi. While Gallippo stands out most in Congress's recordings, it's Golembiewski and Quillen who dominate the sound of its live shows. Golembiewski's bass is not only a formidable element of the rhythm section, but a thundering primary sound, perhaps the band's true lead instrument in the live setting. Quillen's rhythms are precise, often complex, and he drives the band with a sense of restless tension bordering on anxiety.

If Golembiewski and Quillen are the band's key sonic elements live, vocalist Jim Cherewick is undoubtedly its visual focal point. Cherewick, who has also made a name for himself locally with his considerably more stripped-back solo folk tunes, is a scrawny, uninhibited bundle of raw nerves onstage. While his three bandmates play with laidback nonchalance, Cherewick convulses, flails, trembles, and generally sings his heart out—although perhaps "sing" isn't the right word here. In his solo work, Cherewick displays more conventional vocals. But when he's with Congress, Cherewick wails, his voice frequently breaking with a sense of urgency that suits the driving nature of the music. He's a fascinating performer to watch.

This remarkably cohesive gang of four first came together in 2011 and has played regularly across Ann Arbor and metro Detroit since then. They released a live album in 2011 and a full-length studio effort in 2012; a new split seven-inch with Green Lights will be released at their show at Woodruff's on February 1.

Most of the players are firmly entrenched in their thirties, and some of them in fatherhood: Gallippo has a three-year-old and Golembiewski has a baby on the way. They look the part too, but that's a complement to the purity of their musical spirit. In button-downs, jeans, and (occasionally) baggy sweaters, Congress isn't aiming for "cool." The magic of the band is in the music and the energy of the guys performing it. And you can't get much more "punk" than that.

—Patrick Dunn

The Arena

203 E. Washington 222–9999

This downtown sports bar features live music Mon. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of roots Americana, classic rock, and blues, including many originals, by a jazz-tinged, jam-oriented trio led by local singer-guitarist Al-Saadi. With drummer Skeeto Valdez and bassist Jordan Schug.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761–1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. **Feb. 4: George Kahumoku Jr. & Ledward Kaapana.** Double bill offering a rare chance to hear the sweet, silvery sounds of Hawaiian soul music performed by 2 of the islands' most celebrated slack key acoustic guitarists. Using open tunings on guitar (hence the term "slack key"), they create a sound that is melodically seductive, harmonically rich, and rhythmically complex. Their repertoires include traditional and contemporary folk songs in both English and Hawaiian. $20. **Feb. 5: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **Feb. 6: Carrie Rodriguez.** Acclaimed young Texas-bred alt-country singer-songwriter whose sultry, engagingly intimate rough-hewn vocals and sly but emotionally frank lyrics often provoke comparisons to Lucinda Williams, with whom she recently toured as the opening act. "There's a real earthiness in both Carrie's singing and fiddle playing on this series of colourful neo-country songs," says *Mojo* critic Colin Irwin. "She's hot and steamy one minute on the outrageously seductive '50s French Movie,' and pure Nashville the next on the Tammy-esque 'I Don't Want to Play House Anymore.'" Her 2013 CD, *Give Me All You've Got,* features a number of dark themes that reflect her early influence from Leonard Cohen. $15. **Feb. 7: Mustard's Retreat.** Longtime local favorites Michael Hough and David Tamulevich perform both traditional songs and original pieces that alternate between Hough's sometimes spellbinding, sometimes humorous narrative ballads, and Tamulevich's poignant lyrical songs. According to songwriter Garnet Rogers, Mustard's Retreat "represents everything that is best about folk music. Their songs have entered the lexicon of anonymous folk songs." Both Hough and Tamulevich are accomplished guitarists, and they also play banjo, mandolin, flute, autoharp, harmonica, and tin whistle. $16. **Feb. 8: Yiddishe Cup.** This acclaimed Cleveland-based klezmer band led by clarinetist (and U-M grad) Bert Stratton is known for its blend of ensemble virtuosity and wacky humor rooted in a 50s Borscht Belt ethos, with a repertoire ranging from traditional material to "Gentile on My Mind" and "Meshugeneh Mambo." Tonight's show includes a shtickmeister, a klezmer dancer who leads the audience in dancing. $20. **Feb. 9: Kelly Joe Phelps.** Talented blues singer from the Pacific Northwest with a rich, husky voice who sings with an achingly beautiful melancholy that defines the emotional core of his music. He's also a virtuoso slide, 6-string, and 12-string guitarist. Along with several strong originals, his repertoire includes folk blues by the likes of Mississippi Fred McDowell and, as of recently, gospel songs. $15. **Feb. 10: The Defibulators.** Brooklyn (NY) postpunk roots music acoustic septet, fronted by vocalist Erin Bru, whose music melds bluegrass, rockabilly, and honky-tonk. *Crawdaddy* describes the band as "roots-heavy, postpunk music that reinvents the conventions of country music with a CBGB's-meets-Grand Ole Opry feel." The band has an acclaimed new CD, *Debt'll Get 'Em.* $15. **Feb. 11: Carlos Núñez.** A long-time collaborator with Irish music icons the Chieftains, this native of Galicia in northern Spain is a master of Galicia's signature instrument, the *gaita,* or Galician bagpipes, a musically more flexible instrument than its Scottish and Irish descendents, one that Núñez, who also plays pennywhistle, ocarina, Jew's harp, tin whistle, and flute—has transformed into an exciting and funky 21st-century instrument. $20. **Feb. 12: Robert Ellis.** Houston country-rock singer-songwriter whose influences range from Ray Price and Buck Owens to Jackson Browne and the Rolling Stones. He recently moved to Nashville to record his 2nd CD, *The Light from the Chemical Plant,* a collection of songs which venture into noir pop-rock and somber pop-folk confessional territory pioneered by the likes of Paul Simon and Randy Newman. $12.50. **Feb. 13: "My Folky Valentine."** In-the-round performances by local singer-songwriters Annie and Rod Capps and other Midwestern ensembles with performing couples, including the Ontario "Gram Parsons marries Alison Krauss" duo **The Laws** and the Virginia songwriting duo **Wild Ponies.** $15. **Feb. 14: The Steel Wheels.** Acclaimed Virginia bluegrass-based Americana quartet, fronted by singer-songwriters Trent Wagler and Jay Lapp, whose recent CD *Red Wing* was a big hit on the Americana Music Association charts. $20. **Feb. 16: Grahman Colton.** Oklahoma City pop-rock singer-songwriter whose music has been featured in a number of TV shows, from *American Idol* to *Castle.* His new CD, *Lonely Ones,* is a collection of melodically infectious keyboard-based psych-pop tunes. Opening act is **Cumulus,** a Seattle indie pop-rock quartet that recently released its debut CD, *I Never Meant It to Be Like This.* $15. **Feb. 18: Habib Koité.** *See review, p. 69.* Award-winning guitarist, a superstar in his native Mali, whose music infuses the exuberant "danssa" folk rhythm with flavors of everything from flamenco to blues to Cuban son. $20. **Feb. 19: Tom Rush.** One of the seminal figures of the 60s folk boom, Rush made his mark as a convincing interpreter of other people's songs. His 1966 Elektra LP *Take a Little Walk with Me* was a key step in bridging the gap between folk and rock, with its revelatory covers of rock 'n' roll classics by Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, and Buddy Holly. His next album, *The Circle Game,* introduced material by such previously unknown songwriters as Joni Mitchell, Jackson Browne, and James Taylor, as well as superb originals like "No Regrets." Apart from his unimpeachable taste in material, Rush's main strength is his distinctive blues-derived vocal style, a ruggedly elegiac New Hampshire tenor that manages to project at once an inconsolable sense of loss and a resilient sense of humor. He recently released *What I Know,* his first studio album in 30 years. $30. **Feb. 20: The Nuala Kennedy Band.** Traditional Scottish and Irish music by a band led by Kennedy, an acclaimed Irish-born singer-flautist who moved to Scotland at age 18, where she immersed herself in Scottish Gaelic musical tradition. Her new album, *Noble Stranger,* showcases her liltingly beautiful vocals, adventurous instrumentation, and imaginative mix of traditional influences. $15. **Feb. 21: Nora Jane Struthers.** Young Nashville-based Americana singer-songwriter, a former high school English teacher whose story songs draw on old-time, bluegrass, and folk ballad traditions. "Nora Jane infuses bright, fresh lyrics into this traditional genre with sheer intelligence," says bluegrass star Claire Lynch. "Musically, she take unconventional twists and turns, while 'holding you to the road' with commanding charm." She performs with her band, The Party Line. $15. **Feb. 22: Ryan Montbleau.** Talented young singer-songwriter from Cambridge (MA) whose music blends folk, blues, rock, R&B, funk, jazz, and even zydeco flavors—his new CD, *For Higher,* recorded with a lineup of New Orleans musicians, features a great cover of Eddie Hinton's "Yeah Man." "His guitar playing is reminiscent of a funk bass player channeling John Lee Hooker, and lyrically, the phrasing runs the gauntlet of a 70s Stevie Wonder, a 90s Jamiroquai, and a healthy helping of Robert Plant," says *The Noise.* $15. **Feb. 23: Solas.** Led by multi-instrumentalist Seamus Egan on banjo, mandolin, guitar, flute, and tin whistle, Solas is the hottest of several young Irish-American bands who play traditional Celtic music with an expansive contemporary edge. The band also includes fiddler Winifred Horan, accordionist and concertina player Mick McAuley, guitarist and keyboardist Eamon McElholm, and new vocalist Niam Varian-Berry. The band's 2002 Shanachie CD, *The Edge of Silence,* gives Celtic treatments to songs by Bob Dylan, Tom Waits, Nick Drake, and other contemporary American songwriters, and its new CD, *Shamrock City,* was recorded in conjunction with a film project about the immigrant Irish miners of Butte, Montana. $22.50. **Feb. 24: The Apache Relay & The Lonely Wild.** Double bill of highly regarded young pop quintets, the Nashville-based roots-oriented The Apache Relay and the L.A.-based psych-folk Americana outfit The Lonely Wild. $15. **Feb. 25: Tall Heights.** Passionate, melodically seductive acoustic folk-rock by the Boston singer-songwriter duo of guitarist Tim Harrington and cellist Paul Wright. The band recently released its debut CD, *Man of Stone.* FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Feb. 26: Goitse.** Traditional Irish music with a contemporary rhythmic drive by this young quintet made up of University of Limerick students. $15. **Feb. 27: The Pete Siers Trio.** Led by local jazz drummer Siers, this trio of pianist Tad Weed and clarinet player Dave Bennett showcases material from its new album, *Krupa,* a collection of songs by the legendary jazz drummer Gene Krupa. $20. **Feb. 28: Blackie & the Rodeo Kings.** An eclectic mix of headlong rock 'n' roll, haunting ballads, and surf instrumentals by the Juno Award–winning Ontario-based trio of singer-guitarists Stephen Fearing, Tom Wilson, and Colin Linden, who played lead guitar in Dylan's touring band last summer. They got together in 1996 after discovering a common enthusiasm for Canadian songwriter Willie P. Bennett, and their repertoire also includes material by the likes of Bruce Cockburn, Jules Shear, Fred Eaglesmith, and Janice Powers. *No Depression* calls its new CD, *South,* "perfectly conceived and immaculately executed." $20.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington 214–9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb 8: "Rock 'n' Roll Show."** With the local teen rock bands **M2** and **Highlight. Feb. 15: Nick Painter Acoustic Resonance.** Local indie folk-rock duo. Opening acts are 2 local indie rock acts, **Chris Rawlins** and **The Goodfellas.**

Bar Louie

401 E. Liberty 794–3000

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 8–11:30 p.m. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. Also, salsa dancing with a DJ on Fri. 10:30 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Wed.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Feb. 1: The HouseRockers.** Local party quintet that plays 60s rock, blues, and soul. **Feb. 8: John Fett Quartet.** Holly (MI) classic rock band. **Feb. 15: The Alligators.** Detroit R&B and blues band. **Feb. 22: Brett Mitchell & the Giant Ghost.** See Conor O'Neill's.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main 222–0400

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 4: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Feb. 5: Garret Bielaniec & Company.** Classic rock and blues covers by this singer-guitarist duo. **Feb. 11: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Feb. 12: Steven Roth Trio.** Pop-rock with blues, funk, and soul flavorings by this trio led by the young L.A.-based singer-songwriter Roth. **Feb. 18: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter whose music has been described as a hybrid of Bono's and Bruce Springsteen's styles. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley. Feb. 19: Alison Albrecht.** 13-year-old Detroit singer-songwriter whose music blends folk, pop, and country. **Feb. 25: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Feb. 26: Beth Stalker & Jim**

Rawlings. An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award–winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings.

The Blind Pig
208 S. First St. 996–8555

This local music club features live music 4 (Wed.–Sat.) or more nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. & Tues. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **Feb. 1: Loose Teeth.** Local rock quartet fronted by singer-songwriter Greg McIntosh. Opening act is **The Boys Themselves,** a local fuzzpop power trio. **Feb. 5:** TBA. **Feb. 6:** TBA. **Feb. 7: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Feb. 8: Super Happy Funtime Burlesque.** Grand Rapids–based musical comedy burlesque troupe. With local burlesque clown **Mabel Syrup. Feb. 12:** TBA. **Feb. 13: The Wild Feathers.** Straight-ahead rock 'n' roll with booming harmonies by this Nashville quintet that recently released its eponymous debut CD. Opening acts are **Saints of Valory,** an Austin arena-oriented pop-rock quartet that features elegant pop hooks, shimmering guitars, and emotionally charged lyrics, and **Jamestown Revival,** an Austin folk-rock duo with a strong Southern rock flavor that has a brand-new CD, *Utah.* Advance tickets: $13 ($15 at the door). **Feb. 14: Eaddy.** This Ypsilanti hip-hop MC celebrates the release of his new album, *The Pop EP.* Opening acts are several other local hip-hop MCs and ensembles, including **King Milo, J. Spikes, Fly Guy Lou, 100 Proof, Pinnacle Entertainment, J-Classic, K. Fizzle,** and **Mafia Music Group. Feb. 15: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Feb. 19:** TBA. **Feb. 20: Joe Pug.** Highly regarded young Chicago-based folk-rock singer-songwriter whose music draws on a variety of influences from John Prine to the late alt-country songwriter Walter Hyatt and whose best songs manage to blend Springsteen's conversational, musing Everyman with Dylan's gnomic parables. Opening act is **David Ramirez,** an Austin-based folk-rock singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: $12 ($14 at the door). **Feb. 21: Blue Snaggletooth.** Veteran local psychedelic metal-rock band. Opening acts are the Midland stoner rock duo **Beast in the Field,** the Grand Rapids postpunk garage-psych rock 'n' roll quartet **Boss Mustangs,** and the Grand Rapids garage rock duo **The FUZZrites. Feb. 22: The Soil & the Sun.** Grand Rapids orchestral folk-rock septet whose music features complex harmonies, layered melodies, and driving rhythms. Opening acts are the Detroit pop-rock dance band **Flint Eastwood,** the East Lansing indie rock trio **Wayne Szalinski,** and **Silent Lions,** a Toledo punk-soul duo whose music has been describes as "Hall & Oates stoner rock." **Feb. 25: Russian Circles.** Experimental metal-rock trio from Chicago. Opening act is **Mamiffer,** a Seattle-based husband-and-wife experimental noise-pop duo. Advance tickets: $16. **Feb. 26:** TBA. **Feb. 27: "The Hive Stings the Pig."** A showcase of members of this local arts collective TBA. **Feb. 28: The Paths.** This U-M student indie rock quintet celebrates the release of its debut EP. Opening acts TBA.

The Blue Nile
221 E. Washington 998–4746

This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin and other friends TBA.

The Cavern Club
210 S. First St. 913–8890

This downtown basement club in the Celebration Cellars banquet space features occasional live music, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. There is also sometimes music in the street-level Millennium Club and the 2nd-floor Circus Bar & Billiards. Also, karaoke in the Circus, Wed. & Thurs. 8 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m. **Feb. 1 & 8: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. In the Millennium Club.

Common Cup
1511 Washtenaw 327–6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment occasional Fri. No cover, no dancing. February schedule TBA.

Conor O'Neill's
318 S. Main 665–2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Tues., Thurs., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Every Tues.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Feb. 1: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **Feb. 6: The Kreelers.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo formerly known as Bruno's Boys. **Feb. 8: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **Feb. 13: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Feb. 15: Randy Brock Group.** See above. **Feb. 20: Brett Mitchell & the Giant Ghost.** Midland pop-rock band led by Mitchell, a singer-songwriter and drummer whom *Grand Rapids Press* music critic John Sinkevics calls "the new millennium's version of Marshall Crenshaw." **Feb. 22: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Feb. 27: Don & Dickie.** Duo of guitarist Don Sicheneder and banjoist Rich Delcamp from the popular local roots music sextet Dragon Wagon.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room
114 S. Main 665–9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8:30–10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 1: Ben Hassenger.** Western Michigan singer-songwriter who's written 2 Detroit Tigers songs that are in the archives of the National Baseball Hall of Fame. **Feb. 7: Kara Kaufmann.** Local singer-songwriter whose piano-based pop-rock and pop-folk songs blend seductively atmospheric melodies with sensual, edgy, thoughtful lyrics. **Feb. 8: Peter Madcat Ruth.** World-renowned local harmonica wiz—Dave Brubeck praised him as one of the world's "great jazz soloists"—with a massive multi-genre repertoire of blues, jazz, folk, and rock tunes, along with several fine originals and songs by other contemporary composers. Performing as a one-man band, Madcat sings and also plays guitar, ukulele, jaw harp, kalimba, pennywhistle, and more. **Feb. 14: Spencer Michaud.** Local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist whose music blends Motown, Tin Pan Alley, and folk. **Feb. 15: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Feb. 21: Hoodang.** Wry, pungent alt-country by this local trio led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter that describes its influences as "English murder ballads, hardcore American country music, and careful-you'll-cut-yourself electric blues." The band has an eagerly awaited new CD, *Blissfield.* **Feb 22: February Sky.** Chicago-based duo of guitarist, banjoist, and dulcimer player Susan Urban, a singer-songwriter who writes story songs and humorous slice-of-life vignettes, and guitarist Phil Cooper, who sings original arrangements of traditional and contemporary songs. **Feb. 28: Quench.** Folk-oriented songs with Celtic and country flavors by the suburban Detroit singer-songwriter duo of guitarist and mandolinist Jere Stormer and guitarist and violinist Marilyn Driggs, who also perform original takes on folk and pop tunes.

Creekside Grill and Bar
5827 Jackson Rd. 827–2737

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 23: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalist Patty O'Connor. Tonight's program focuses on the arrangements of **Terry Gibbs Dream Band,** the big band of vibraphonist Gibbs. 6:30–9 p.m.

The Elks Lodge
220 Sunset 761–7172

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Thurs.–Sat. 7–10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Every Thurs.: The Glimpses Duo/Trio/Quartet/Quintet.** Modern jazz and improvised music by a variable cast of local musicians led by alto, tenor, and baritone saxophonist **Dan Bennett. Every Sat.:** TBA. **Feb. 7: Kirsten Carey Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by this local composer-guitarist, who plays frequently with The Great Collapsing Hrung, The Arbor Composers Collective, and James Cornish. **Feb. 14:** TBA. **Feb. 21: Yuma Uesaka Quartet.** Standards, modern jazz covers, and originals by this ensemble of U-M jazz majors led by tenor saxophonist Uesaka. **Feb. 28: Ingrid Racine Quartet.** Former Nomo trumpeter Racine leads her jazz quartet in original compositions that reflect her R&B, hip-hop, rock, and modern jazz influences. With guitarist Chuck Newsome, bassist Eric Nachtrab, and drummer Rob Avsharian.

Guy Hollerin's
3600 Plymouth Rd. 769–9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.–midnight. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. **Feb. 1: Chef Chris & the Rumpshakers.** Local blues band led by vocalist and blues harpist Chef Chris Sirvinskis. **Feb. 8: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **Feb. 15: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** Detroit blues band fronted by young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **Feb. 22: The Bluescasters.** Intense, low-down blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet.

The Habitat Lounge
3050 Jackson Rd. 665–3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs. 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m., along with jazz Sun. 7–11 p.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: James Cornelison Quartet.** Jazz originals and standards by this U-M music student ensemble led by electric guitarist Cornelison. **Feb. 1: Chateau.** Veteran pop dance band. **Feb. 4–6: Acoustic Rewind.** 80s and 90s pop covers by this Detroit acoustic duo. **Feb. 7 & 8: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Feb. 11–13: Mark Chichkan Duo.** Rock duo led by veteran Windsor singer-guitarist Chichkan. **Feb. 14 & 15: Persuasion.** Versatile Detroit R&B dance band. **Feb. 18–20: Scotty Alexander Duo.** Pop-rock covers by everyone from Elton John and Lionel Richie to Matchbox Twenty and Kings of Leon by this duo led by Brighton singer-pianist Alexander. **Feb. 21 & 22: The Front Men.** Detroit vintage-rock band. **Feb. 25–27: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Feb. 28: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing.

LIVE
102 S. First St. 623–1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour 6:30–9 p.m. and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **Feb. 7: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. 6:30–9 p.m. **Feb. 14: The Terraplanes.** See Mash. 6:30–9 p.m. **Feb. 21: The Vibratrons.** All-star band led by veteran local rocker Dan Mulholland, the charismatic former leader of the Watusis and several other great local rock 'n' roll bands. Its repertoire includes everything from garage rock and blues to country and folk, along with more ballads than Mulholland usually essays. With guitarist Brian Delaney, keyboardist Andy Adamson, bassist Jerry Hancock, and drummer Rich Dishman. 6:30–9 p.m. **Feb. 28: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30–9 p.m.

Mash
211 E. Washington 222–4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Thurs.–Sat., and occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Occasional weekend happy hour music, 6–9 p.m. DJs on Wed., 11 p.m.–1 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Wed.: Open Mike Night.** All musicians invited. **Feb. 1: Broken Arrow Blues Band.** Detroit-area blues band. **Feb. 6: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** Local septet fronted by vocalist Dan "Dahsoulman" Carter that plays a mix of R&B, soul, and blues. **Feb. 7: Laura Rain.** Solo performance by this Detroit blues and soul singer. 6–9 p.m. **Feb. 7: Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies.** Local roots-rock quartet, led by former Starlight Drifters singer-guitarist Mack, whose repertoire includes originals and rockabilly, early rock 'n' roll, western swing, and hillbilly bop covers. **Feb. 8: Matt Boylan.** Covers and originals by this local pop-folk singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Feb. 8: The Canastas.** Local quintet that plays vintage jump blues, rockabilly, and rock 'n' roll. **Feb. 13: Cetan Clawson.** Monroe blues-rock band. **Feb. 14: Mike Vial.** Howell pop-rock singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Feb. 14: The HouseRockers.** See Bar Louie. **Feb. 15: Abigail Stauffer.** Local singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant alto voice who's known for her piercing, emotionally direct pop-folk and pop-rock songs. She released her debut CD, *Alone to Dream,* in 2011, and she has just completed her sophomore effort. 6–9 p.m. **Feb. 15: The Bluescasters.** See Guy Hollerin's. **Feb. 20: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See Conor O'Neill's. **Feb. 21: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Feb. 21: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
314 East Liberty Ann Arbor
If you live to laugh, life is here

Sean Patton
February 1
Comedy Central's "Live at Gotham"
"Late Night" with Jimmy Fallon"
NBC's "Conan"
Comedy Central's "Inside Amy Schumer"
BBC's "Funny as Hell"
VH-1's "Undateable"
"The Half Hour"
"Top 40 Videos" - and the short film "Stood Up."

Derek Lengwenus
February 6 7 8
HBO's "Just For Laughs Comedy Festival"
"Bob & Tom Show"
"Midwest Comedy Competition"
"Montreal Fringe Festival"
"International Eat My Shorts Festival"
"San Francisco International Comedy Festival"

Tina Giorgi
Valentine's Weekend
February 13 14 15
CBS's "Late Late Show"
Comedy Central's "Tough Crowd"
NBC's "Friday Night"
"New Joke City"
"Spotlight Cafe"
The perfect comedian for this traditional "date night" weekend

Ben Creed
February 20 21 22
"Showtime Comedy Club Network"
"Billy Gardell Presents Road Dogs."
"Comedy Tonight"
"Comic Strip Live"
"Comedy on the Road"
MTV's "Half Hour Comedy Hour"
The Playboy Channel
the film "Comedy's Dirtiest Dozen"

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February 27 28
March 1
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Music at Nightspots

singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of house-rocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **Feb. 22: Mike Vial.** See above. **Feb. 22: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **Feb. 27: The Blues Owls.** Blues band led by singer-blues harpist Bob Bedard, a Dexter psychologist. **Feb. 28: Michael May.** Local blues and blues-rock singer-harpist. 6–9 p.m. **Feb. 28: Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss.

Melange Subterranean Bistro
314 S. Main **222–0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 8–11 p.m. Also, DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Doug Horn Trio.** Classic jazz from the American songbook by this ensemble led by local alto saxophonist Horn. With various drop-in guests TBA.

The Necto
516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing.

Old Town
122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Feb. 2:** No music. **Feb. 9: Chris Bathgate.** Talented local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic folk-rock story songs in a variety of moods. **Feb. 16: Charlie Weaver.** Acoustic folk music "with a touch of bluegrass and trout stream rhythms" by this northern Michigan singer-guitarist (and fishing guru), a former Ann Arborite who was a regular at the Old Town Sunday night folk jams in the early 80s. **Feb. 23: Midwest Territory Band.** Self-styled "jug-band jazz" by this local ensemble led by blues-oriented vocalist and guitar virtuoso **Rollie Tussing.**

Oz's Music Environment
1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30–9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Feb. 4: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Feb. 25: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club
207 S. Main **214–0400**

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight and Sun. & Mon. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Alex Belhaj Crescent City Trio.** Local ensemble led by guitarist Belhaj that plays a range of New Orleans jazz styles, from struts, stomps, cakewalks, and rags to pop tunes, marches, and classical favorites. With a clarinetist and pianist TBA. **Every Wed.: Ron Brooks Trio.** Mainstream bebop-rooted jazz by this trio led by veteran local bassist Brooks. With pianist Tad Weed and drummer George Davidson. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences.

Rush Street
314 S. Main **913–0330**

This martini lounge features nightly DJs, along with live music, Fri. 5–8 p.m., Sun. 10 p.m.–2 a.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Fri.** (except Feb. 7) **& Sun.: Legendary Wings.** Local jazz quintet that focuses on dynamic, challenging, and less commonly heard music from the modern jazz repertoire interspersed with free improvisation. The usual lineup features saxophonists Dan Bennett and Tim Haldeman, Fender Rhodes electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins.

Silvio's Organic Pizza
715 North University **214–6666**

This campus-area restaurant features live music Thurs. & Sun. 6–8 p.m., Fri. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Swing dancing to a DJ Wed. 11 p.m.–12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing (except Wed.). **Every Thurs.: Neal Anderson Quintet.** Local jazz ensemble led by trumpeter Anderson. **Every Sun.: Will Mefford.** Improvisations on jazz standards by this local pianist. **Feb. 7:** TBA. **Feb. 14: Old Friends.** The local acoustic trio of Gary Williamson, Shekinah Errington, and Griff Griffin perform an eclectic mix of songs by everyone from Otis Redding and Neil Young to Santana and Pink Floyd. **Feb. 21: Steve Rich & Tim Prosser.** The local duo of singer-guitarist Rich and singer-songwriter and "mandolin maniac" Prosser performs a mix of acoustic originals and traditional music. Also, a guest musician TBA. **Feb. 28: Isosceles.** Versatile local acoustic trio that plays a mix of jazz, swing, country, pop, and folk. With vocalist Shekinah Errington, bassist Tim Berla, and guitarist Jim Cooney.

Tap Room
201 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. 8 p.m.–midnight, and occasional Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited.

Vinology
110 S. Main **222–9841**

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz Thurs. 8:30–11 p.m. beginning Feb. 13. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Feb. 13: The Rachel Mazer Trio.** Vocal and instrumental jazz by this trio led by Mazer, a U-M jazz studies singer-saxophonist whose influences range from Billie Holiday to Beyoncé. With pianist Andrew Hintzen and bassist Joe Fee. Tonight's program features music on the theme of love in anticipation of Valentine's Day. **Feb. 20: Nicole New.** An eclectic mix of jazz with pop and bluegrass flavors by this trio fronted by New, a Detroit vocalist known for her rich tone and rhythmic phrasing. **Feb. 27: The Miles Brown Trio.** Jazz trio led by composer-bassist Brown. With pianist Mike Jellick and drummer Jesse Kramer.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.
2019 W. Stadium **369–2990**

This west side brewpub features live music, Tues. 8 p.m.–midnight & some weekends, 8:30 p.m.–12:15 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 1: Ghost City Searchlight.** Dearborn postpunk quartet whose music draws on Celtic and American folk idioms. Opening act is **October Babies,** a local self-styled "upbeat global soul" pop-jazz jam quartet, led by the Ypsilanti husband-and-wife duo of Toko Shiiki-Santos and Erik Santos, whose songs are sung mostly in Japanese. **Feb. 4: Emergency Bluegrass System.** New local bluegrass ensemble that includes members of the Flatbellys and Wire in the Wood. **Feb. 8: UP.** Local pop band fronted by October Babies guitarist Dale King that plays originals and covers by everyone from Jack White to the Zac Brown Band to Led Zeppelin to Bill Withers. **Feb. 11: Russ Huff Band.** Local jazz fusion ensemble led by Macpodz trumpeter Huff. **Feb. 13: The Low Voltage.** The local pop-folk singer-songwriter duo of Colin Simpson and Emily Fox. **Feb. 18: Emergency Bluegrass System.** See above. **Feb. 22: The Ridge.** Soulful, funky down-home originals by this local progressive American roots music band. **Feb. 25: Nick Strange Band.** Popular local power trio led by singer-guitarist Strange, with drummer John Churchville and bassist Sam Monroe. The band plays mostly originals along with an eclectic mix of roots and classic rock covers and jazz standards.

Woodruff's
36 E. Cross
Ypsilanti **483–2800**

This club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town features live music Tues. 8–10 p.m., Thurs. 10–11:15 p.m., and Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, Friday happy hour bands 6–8 p.m. and karaoke on Tues. 10 p.m.–1 a.m. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. **Every Tues.: "Acoustic Open Mike."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter **Erik Santos. Feb. 1: Congress.** Ypsilanti postpunk rock 'n' roll quartet fronted by the unhinged vocals of Jim Cherewick. *See review, p. 44.* Opening acts are the Ypsilanti rock 'n' roll trio **Double Weirdo,** the local indie pop-rock trio **Ghostlady,** and the local garage rock trio **Green Lights. Feb. 2: "Boylesque."** Drag show. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. **Feb. 3: Reverend.** Detroit experimental rock 'n' soul jam band. Opening act is **The Howling Loud,** a local rock 'n' roll quartet. **Feb. 5: The Livingstones.** Birmingham Christian rock quartet. Opening acts are **Ontario,** a southeast Michigan indie rock sextet, and **Speak Low If You Speak Love,** the stage name of Westland pop-folk singer-songwriter Ryan Graham. **Feb. 6: Wicker Chairs.** Local rock trio. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti noise-rock power trio **Glass Clue,** the Ypsilanti synth-pop band **Ministry of Boredom,** the Toledo-based Americana alt-country singer-songwriter **Ben Stalets,** and **James Henes,** a local alternative rock band led by singer-songwriter and guitarist James Henes. **Feb. 7: Hullabaloo.** Veteran local ska and 80s-style pop quintet. 6–8 p.m. **Feb. 7:** TBA. **Feb. 8: Mike Hard.** Postpunk garage rock by a quartet led by this singer-songwriter best known as the former frontman of the God Bullies and Thrall. Opening acts are **Knives Are Quiet,** a Grand Rapids instrumental rock band, and **Disinformants,** an Ypsilanti Detroit-style rock 'n' roll trio. **Feb. 9: The Damn Choir.** Chicago indie rock septet. Opening acts are the Grand Rapids indie rock band **Good Day Good Sir,** the Chicago alternative rock quintet **Archie Powell & the Exports,** and **Blues Dog Inquisition,** an Ypsilanti quintet that plays hard-driving classic Chicago blues. **Feb. 10: Divorce Party.** Ypsilanti noise-rock band. Opening acts are the local punk band **Pizza Mask,** the local rock 'n' roll quartet **The Howling Loud,** the Detroit rock 'n' soul jam band **Reverend,** and the Ypsilanti bass 'n' drum duo **Super Thing.** No cover. **Feb. 12:** TBA. **Feb. 13: The Paths.** Local indie rock quartet. Opening acts are the Detroit Americana rock 'n' roll quartet **F. Patrick James,** the local pop-rock singer-songwriter **Michael Spain,** the local rock-fusion quartet **Of One,** and the Ferndale punk-rock quartet **Due North. Feb. 14: Jango Jams.** Originals, along with a wide range of classic and modern rock covers, by this local band fronted by singer-songwriter Sean Demonner. Opening act is **Salmagundi,** a Detroit band that plays classic horn-powered Memphis-style rock 'n' roll. 6–8 p.m. **Feb. 14: "Bloody Valentine Massacre."** With bands TBA. **Feb. 15: "Love Hangover."** Love song covers and originals by one-off pairings of area musicians TBA. A popular annual tradition, this show benefits 826michigan and the Huron River Arts Initiative. 7 p.m.–2 a.m. **Feb. 16: "Love & Hate."** Post Valentine's show with the Ypsilanti indie rock band **Vagrant Symphony,** the Ypsilanti electro-pop garage sextet **Booty Shakin' Rhythm Beats (B.S.R.B.),** the Livonia acoustic folk-soul singer-songwriter **Nicole P'Simer,** the Ypsilanti pop-folk singer-songwriter **J. Washburn Gardner,** and **Trembling Earth,** a Manchester-based blues-inflected folk-rock jam band fronted by Waycross (GA) singer-guitarist John Heath. **Feb. 19: King Eddie.** Veteran Detroit psychedelic-soul quintet. Opening acts are **Del Brutto,** a local blues-inflected folk-rock guitar-and-drums duo, and **Buffalo Coven Party,** a local psychedelic rock band. **Feb. 20: The Hive Ann Arbor.** Performances by members TBA of this local arts collective. **Feb. 21: Lawn Care.** Local rock 'n' roll quartet. Opening act is **Hullabaloo** (see above). 6–8 p.m. **Feb. 21: Koffin Kats.** Detroit-area psychobilly punk band. Opening acts are **The Gutter Ghouls,** a Detroit psychobilly trio, and **Break Anchor,** a Detroit punk-rock band featuring members of The Suicide Machines. **Feb. 22: "Elbow Deep."** Drag show and gay and lesbian dance night hosted by Maxi and Jennifer of the House of Chanel, with a DJ TBA. **Feb. 23: The Devil's Cut.** Lansing Americana punk sextet. Opening acts are **Iron Clad,** an Ypsilanti punk band, and **Retro Specs,** a young Oxford (MI) alternative rock trio. **Feb. 26:** TBA. **Feb. 27: Lawless Carver.** Ypsilanti folk-rock quintet. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti pop-folk trio **Truman,** the Ypsilanti funk-inflected rock 'n' roll band **Johnny Lunchbox,** and **Phat Mama. Feb. 28: Jango Jams.** See above. Opening act is **Corndaddy,** a local alt-country band led by singer-songwriters Kevin Brown and Jud Branam whose music filters early 70s country-rock through the influences of bluegrass, power pop, and British Invasion bombast. 6–8 p.m. **Feb. 28: The 1's and 2's.** Stevie Wonder/Motown tribute band. Opening acts are **Maria Rose & the Swiss Kicks,** a Detroit-area trio led by Flint-bred singer-songwriter Maria Rose that plays soulful, gritty indie pop-rock, and **Sean Duffy,** a local singer-songwriter.

World of Beer
1300 South University **913–2430**

This campus-area bar & grill features live music Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Feb. 1: Jimmy Auquier.** Acoustic pop-rock singer-guitarist from Detroit. **Feb. 7: Michael Bush Band.** High-energy pop covers by this local band. **Feb. 8: Dan Mazur Duo.** Pop and rock covers by a duo led by this Dearborn singer-guitarist. **Feb. 14: Ryan Dunlap Duo.** Acoustic duo led by this northern Ohio pop-folk singer-songwriter and guitarist. **Feb. 15: Sophie Mendel.** Pop-rock and pop-folk covers by this local singer-guitarist. **Feb. 21: Painted White.** Detroit acoustic duo of singer Holly Schiavulli and guitarist Garret Schmittling whose repertoire includes classic funk, pop dance hits, classic and modern rock, and even a few country songs. **Feb. 22: Julie Haven.** Pop-folk originals and covers by this suburban Detroit singer-pianist whose influences include Tori Amos, Alanis Morrisette, and Alicia Keys. **Feb. 28: The Takeaways.** Local band led by Shaun Garth Walker, a singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire.

Zal Gaz Grotto
2070 W. Stadium **663–1202**

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sun. 5–8 p.m., Mon. 7:30–10:15 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger.

February Events

FILMS

66 Film Screenings
John Hinchey & Katie Whitney

GALLERIES

53 Exhibit Openings
Katie Whitney
Invasion of the Drones
Stephanie Douglass

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

44 Nightspots
John Hinchey
Congress
Patrick Dunn

MYRA KLARMAN

The Burns Park Players present *Hello Dolly!* January 31 and February 1, 7, and 8.

EVENTS REVIEWS

65 Joshua Breakstone
The art of the cool guitar
Piotr Michalowski

69 Habib Koite
The modern griot
James M. Manheim

71 Paisley Rekdal
Something inviolable
Keith Taylor

73 Gospelfest
Singers of all (and no) faiths
Sandor Slomovits

We want to know about your event!
Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to annarborobserver.com).

★ *Denotes a free event.*

annarborobserver.com:
An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **annarborobserver.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on annarborobserver.com.

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WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.annarborobserver.com

1 SATURDAY

★Great Lakes National Ocean Sciences Bowl: Michigan Sea Grant. High school students compete in quiz bowl–style rounds with questions about ocean and Great Lakes biology, chemistry, geology, physics, technology, history, and economics. *8 a.m.–5 p.m., U-M Dana Bldg., 440 Church. Free. wconard@umich.edu.*

★"Encounters with Islamic Art: Reception, Revival, and Response": UMMA. Daylong series of talks about how Islamic art was defined and received in both European and American museum and academic contexts in the 19th and 20th centuries. In conjunction with *Doris Duke's Shangri La,* an exhibit of ceramics, textiles, paintings, tile panels, architectural elements, photographs, and drawings by Islamic artists from the tobacco heiress's extensive collection. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"The Future of Renewable Energy in Michigan": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. Talk by Michigan League of Conservation Voters field director Melissa Bernardi. Followed by discussion. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

★Saturday Morning Border-to-Border Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Sat.* 22-mile ride, at various paces along the Border-to-Border Trail, from Ann Arbor to Ypsilanti, to decide where to eat lunch. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 545–0541.*

★Open Play Group: Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool. *Feb. 1 & 8.* Indoor and outdoor activities, storytime, and refreshments for toddlers and preschool-aged kids, accompanied by an adult. Siblings and friends welcome. *10 a.m.–noon, Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool, 1547 Miller. Free. 585–5555.*

★Spanish Playgroup: Manzanitas Spanish Immersion Preschool. Spanish stories and songs geared toward kids ages 6 months to 5 years, accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. *10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Manzanitas, 511 Miller. Free. (Park in the church lot off Chapin.) 369–6563.*

★Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops. *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. *10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.) & Noon–12:30 p.m.*

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february 2014 highlights

Ann Arbor District Library

February 4

Gratitude Steel Band

February 12

Ruby Robinson

February 13

Donna Washington

Martin Bandyke

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Sunday 2
1:00 - 3:00 pm
The Affordable Care Act: What You Need to Know
Representatives trained by the Washtenaw Health Initiative will discuss how the ACA will change insurance coverage options at the local level • TRAVERWOOD BRANCH

Sunday 2
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Open Play for Children with Autism: Play Connection with Therapy Dogs for Children on the Autism Spectrum
Dr. Rick Solomon will be available to talk with parents and children • PRESCHOOL - GRADE 5 W/ ADULT

Monday 3
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Banish the Winter Blues with Yoga • Dress comfortably, bring a mat or towel, and be ready to move, maybe even dance!

Tuesday 4
7:00 - 8:30 pm
ANN ARBOR/YPSILANTI READS BOOK DISCUSSION • ***Between Shades of Gray*** • AADL staff will lead a discussion of Ruta Sepetys' international bestseller • PITTSFIELD BRANCH • GRADE 6 - ADULT

Sunday 9
2:00 - 3:00 pm
Make a Valentine's Day Card • Make a card for a patient at Mott Children's Hospital or Veterans Hospital or for someone you love! • PITTSFIELD BRANCH • PRESCHOOL - GRADE 5

Monday 10
7:00 - 8:00 pm
BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT • **The Gratitude Steel Band**
African, jazz, classical, calypso, reggae, and '80s music display the joyful contributions of the African American experience!
ALL AGES

Tuesday 11
7:00 - 8:30 pm
ANN ARBOR/YPSILANTI READS • **Veselba: Bulgarian Music & Dance**
Veselba ("merriment" in Bulgarian) features **Nan Nelson** on tambura, **Chris Rietz** on kaval and **Bruce Sagan** on gadulka

Wednesday 12
7:00 - 8:30 pm
City of Ann Arbor 2014 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Healthy Ecosystems • The second forum includes an overview of Ann Arbor's urban and community forest, tips for sustainable landscaping, yard design, and stormwater management at home

Wednesday 12
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Naturalization: A Step to Citizenship with Attorney Ruby Robinson of the **Michigan Immigrant Rights Center** • Learn the benefits and process of naturalization • MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

Thursday 13
6:30 - 8:30 pm
BLACK HISTORY MONTH FILM • ***The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela*** (NOT RATED) • A stirring, comprehensive film from the PBS series *Frontline* about the extraordinary life of the late Nelson Mandela

Saturday 15
10:00 - 11:30 am
A Family Affair: An Interactive Family Storytelling Workshop
Award-winning recording artist and professional storyteller **Donna Washington** teaches families how to create a family tradition of sharing stories • FOR FAMILIES W/ CHILDREN AGE 5 & UP

Saturday 15
1:00 - 3:00 pm
The Affordable Care Act: What You Need to Know
See description of Feb. 2 event • DT MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Wednesday 19
6:30 - 8:45 pm
Smell and Tell: Baking with Flavor • Michelle Krell Kydd teaches how to use food grade essential oils for exquisite tea cakes and cookies • DT 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM • GRADE 6 - ADULT

Tuesday 25
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Controlled Burns in Ann Arbor's Natural Areas • Natural Area Preservation (City of Ann Arbor) staff explain the what and why of controlled burns • TRAVERWOOD BRANCH • GRADE 6 - ADULT

Wednesday 26
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Martin Bandyke's Moving Pictures: Academy Awards Preview with special guest **Russ Collins** • Who's going to win?!

Thursday 27
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Go! Ice Cream Presents the Story of Delicious Ingredients with tastes of favorite flavors! • TRAVERWOOD BRANCH • GRADE 6 - ADULT

For more information: 327.4555 or aadl.org

(Wed. & Fri.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.

★**"Winter Fun for Kids": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** *Feb. 1 & 15.* Led by WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance. For kids ages 3–6, accompanied by a parent. *Feb. 1:* **"Nature Detectives"** includes a story about winter animals followed by a hike to look for animal signs. *Feb. 15:* **"Winter Scavenger Hunt"** includes a search for winter animals and a chance to paint a picture inspired by the adventure. *10:30 a.m.–noon, County Farm Park Field Operations Bldg., Platt Rd. entrance. Free; pre-registration required. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway.** *Feb. 1 & 15.* One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Awards for the top three finishers in each class. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. *10:30 a.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. $16 to race. (517) 960–5252.*

★**Waterloo Recreation Area.** *Feb. 1, 7, 9, 15, 21, & 23.* Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Katie McGlashen (except as noted). *Feb. 1 (11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.):* **"Winter Tracking for Families."** Participants learn to recognize and identify animal signs and make a plaster track to take home. Dress for the outdoors. *Feb. 7 & 21 (7–8:30 p.m.):* **"Winter Evening Hike."** A guided hike with some owl calling. Warm drinks. *Feb. 9 (2–3 p.m.):* **"Circle of Life."** Binder Park Zoomobile (Battle Creek) naturalists display a variety of live animals from Africa and discuss how all living things are connected. Preregistration requested. *Feb. 15 (10 a.m.–2 p.m., Mill Lake Boat Launch, McClure Rd., follow the signs from the north end of Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157):* **"Family Ice Fishing and Bonfire."** All invited to watch an ice-fishing demo or try it yourself. Followed by a bonfire with hot cocoa and marshmallows to roast. Also, you can **make your own ice fishing jig stick,** 10 a.m.–noon at the Discovery Center. *Feb. 23 (2–3 p.m.):* **"Michigan Wolves: Past, Present, and Future."** Naturalist and wolf advocate Dorothy McLeer presents a program on the comeback of wolves in Michigan, the issues that arise when people live near wolves, and what the future holds for wolves. Preregistration requested. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area. Free. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**Storytime: Literati Bookstore.** *Every Sat.* 15-minute storytime geared toward very young children. *11 a.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Sat.* An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. Also, after storytime on Feb. 1 *only*, a chance to meet Deborah Diesen's **Pout-Pout Fish,** and after storytime on Feb. 15 *only,* the Huron Valley Humane Society brings adoptable pets to a storytime that includes activities, crafts, and a chance to meet Clifford the Big Red Dog. *11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Owls: Birds of Prey": U-M Natural History Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* Hands-on 20-minute interactive demo exploring the lives of owls and their role in the food chain. *11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

"Dora's Pirate Adventure": Skyline High School. *Feb. 1 & 2.* Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in Nickelodeon's musical adaptation of *Dora the Explorer,* its popular long-running animated TV series about a Latina girl with a penchant for embarking on quests with her colorful friends. Cast: Alex Porter-Castro, Andrew Terry, Lia Minonne, Loralye Johnson, Cecilia Lundberg, Ryann Patten, Tom Verstappen, Leah Hess, Aliyah Kiesler, and Ida Mwai. *11 a.m. (Feb. 1) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 1 & 2), Skyline High School auditorium, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets $10 (youth age 3 & up, $7) in advance at showtix4u.com, $12; lap children age 2 & under, $3) at the door. 994–6515.*

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (Sat. 11:30 a.m., Sat. & Sun. 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***Cosmic Colors*** (Sat. 12:30 p.m.) is an audiovisual journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum that explores the reasons for color, the nature of X-rays, and more. ***The Cowboy Astronomer*** (Sat. & Sun. 2:30 p.m.) is an audiovisual show about a cowboy who has spent a lifetime studying the night sky and listening to star legends. *Various times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *Feb. 1, 8, & 15.* Presented by park naturalist Mark Irish. *Feb. 1 (noon):* **"Kids Craft Day."** All kids invited to bring a T-shirt or canvas shopping bag to stamp or paint with nature-themed designs. $3 per item. *Feb. 8 (1 p.m.):* **"Winter Ecology Walk."** A hike to see how animal life is weathering the winter. *Feb. 15 (11 a.m.):* **"Live! Birds of Prey."** Howell Nature Center representatives present a program on birds of prey that includes displays of live hawks, owls, falcons, and vultures. *Various times, Hudson Mills activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $5 (kids, $3) unless otherwise noted. Preregistration required. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at park office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $7 per player; free for spectators. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

★**"Sum Story Fun": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Feb. 1, 8, & 15.* AAUW members and U-M engineering students read a math education story and lead math activities for kids in grades K–3. *Feb. 1:* Matthew Elligott's ***The Lion's Share*** and activities exploring fractions. *Feb. 8:* Jacqueline Briggs Martin's 1999 Caldecott Medal–winning ***Snowflake Bentley*** and activities exploring hexagons. *Feb. 15:* Amy Axelrod's ***Pigs on a Blanket*** and activities exploring time. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Ohio State. The U-M also has a meet this month vs. **Nebraska** (Feb. 8, 7 p.m.). *2 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. Ticket prices TBA. 763–2159.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Minnesota. The U-M also has games this month against **Purdue** (Feb. 9, noon), **Nebraska** (Feb. 13, 7 p.m.), and **Iowa** (Feb. 22, 1:30 p.m.). *2 p.m., Crisler Center, S. State at Hoover. $7 & $8. 764–0247.*

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Natural History Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★**"The Race to Space: Kerbal Space Program": Ann Arbor District Library.** All teens in grades 6–12 invited to play this game in which players create their own space program. *2–5 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. Arrive early; space limited. 327–8301.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. *2:30–5 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–1115.*

★**"Raptor Feeding": Leslie Science & Nature Center.** *Every Sat.* LSNC volunteers feed and answer questions about the center's red-tailed hawk, peregrine falcon, and other resident raptors, who may come out of their enclosures to eat. *3–4 p.m. Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997–1553.*

"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment. *Every Sat.* Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. on Feb. 1 only, a free **Kids Open Stage.** *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** *Feb. 1 & 15.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994–9307.*

Russian Dinner: First Presbyterian Church. All invited to enjoy an authentic Russian meal prepared by cooks from St. Vladimir Russian Orthodox Church and First Presbyterian Church. Proceeds benefit the St. Vladimir building fund and the First Presbyterian mission to the Russian village of Davydovo. Also, a brief presentation by Zhanna Skalitzky on her 2013 trip to Davydovo, where she visited the village's Orthodox Church and its summer camp for children with disabilities. *5–7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 1432 Washtenaw. $12 (family, $30). Reservations requested. 662–4466.*

Heidelberg Charity Poker Room. *Daily.* Texas Hold 'Em and blackjack for players of all levels. Also, Hold 'Em tournaments at 7 p.m. Wed., Fri., & Sat. Free dinner, 5–6 p.m., and other nightly specials. Net proceeds donated to a different charity each week. *5 p.m.–2 a.m., Heidelberg (3rd floor), 215 N. Main. $10–$500 buy-in to play poker, $2–$20 per hand blackjack, $40 buy-in for Hold 'Em tournaments. 834–2237.*

"The RoadShow 2014": EMU Convocation Center. Annual Christian pop music festival. Headliners are the veteran Memphis hard-rock quartet **Skillet,** the Georgia southern rock quartet **Third Day,** hip-hop MC **Andy Mineo,** Atlanta folk-gospel singer-songwriter and rapper **Jamie Grace,** and the pop-rock dance band **Royal Tailor.** The bill also includes the Colombian praise & worship quintet **Soulfire Revolution,** the Idaho hard-rock quintet **We as Human,** the Portland pop-rock band **The Neverclaim,** and the Chicago worship ensemble **Vertical Church Band.** *5–10 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Tickets $20 in advance at emutix.com, $10 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center box office, $10 at the door. 487–2282.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Wisconsin. The U-M also has games this month vs. **Penn State** (Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m. & Feb. 22, 7 p.m.) and **Ohio State** (Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m.). *6:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. Ticket price TBA at stubhub.com/michigan-wolverines-hockey-tickets. 764–0247.*

"Dandia Dhamaka": U-M Raas Association 13th Annual Intercollegiate Indian Dance Competition. The nation's premier intercollegiate competition of traditional Indian *raas* dance is an extremely lively affair featuring 8 dance teams from around the nation. The fast-paced, playful raas style originated in ancient times in the northwestern Indian state of Gujarat as part of the Navratri festival that honors Hindu goddesses. It involves rotating circles and changing geometric shapes of elaborately dressed male and female singing dancers who pepper the dance with flourishes and gesture with decorated rods known as *dandias. 6:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $15 & $18 (students, $10). dandiadhamaka.com.*

37th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark. *Jan. 31 & Feb. 1 (different programs).* A major highlight of the local musical year, with established and rising stars representing a wide spectrum of vernacular musical idioms. Emcee both nights is **Seth Walker,** a blues-based down-home Americana singer-songwriter from Austin whose latest CD, *Time Can Change,* has been praised for blending "the grit of Delbert McClinton and the detail and insight of Robert Cray." Tonight's headliner is **Patty Griffin,** an acclaimed roots-music singer-songwriter from Maine whose music is a deft, fiercely personal blend of country, blues, gospel, soul, and sinewy rock 'n' roll. According to the *New York Times,* "Griffin can be whispery and conversational like Rickie Lee Jones, bend blues phrases like Bonnie Raitt, or work herself into a country singer's breaking moans—she can confide memories or hurl challenges." Also appearing: **Ingrid Michaelson** is a young New York pop-rock singer-songwriter with a soft-edged crystalline voice and a talent for writing songs that pair sunny melodies with melancholy lyrics. Her intensely emotive songs have been featured on the soundtracks of several TV shows. Movie and TV star, playwright, and Purple Rose Theatre founder **Jeff Daniels** is also a singer-songwriter whose folk-flavored originals include such favorites as "If William Shatner Can, I Can, Too," "The Lifelong Tiger Fan Blues," "State Trooper," and "Recreational Vehicle." **Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys** is a veteran neo-rockabilly and Western swing sextet from southern California known for its ace musicianship and for a stylistic eclecticism that absorbs western swing, boogie-woogie, Cajun, mariachi, and various other dance music idioms. **Johnnyswim** is the Nashville-based husband-and-wife duo of Abner Ramirez and Amanda Sudano (the daughter of the late disco diva Donna Summer), whose repertoire includes both soul- and blues-anchored pop-folk originals and covers of songs by everyone from Edith Piaf to Britney Spears. **PigPen Theatre Co.** is a NYC-based ensemble of musicians, actors, and storytellers that has released a widely acclaimed old-timey pop-folk CD, *Bremen,* and produced several acclaimed off-Broadway plays, including the NYC Fringe Festival's top play 2 years in a row. **The Crane Wives** is a Grand Rapids Americana pop-folk quintet. *6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $35 & $47.50 per night and $60 & $85 for both nights in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mototix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**26th Annual "Big Rack Night."** This annual contest for white-tailed deer hunters attracts around 400 people. The top award winners in the firearms, archery, muzzle loading, ladies, and youth divisions are invited to go onstage, display their antlers, and swap hunting stories. Also, talks by guest speakers with unusual or outstanding racks. Additional overall prize for "biggest rack" (number, size, and mass of points on the 2 horns). Light dinner for sale. *7 p.m. (doors open 5 p.m.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Free admission. 439–7919.*

★**"Dao to Now": U-M Confucius Institute.** Traditional and contemporary music for Asian instruments by the husband-and-wife duo of the celebrated zheng (plucked zither) virtuoso **Mei Han** and Canadian composer-performer **Randy Raine-Reusch,** a renowned multi-instrumentalist specializing in wind and string instruments from around the world. *7–9 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre (4th floor). Free. 764–8888.*

Sketch Comedy Revue: Greenhills School Voodoo Theater Company. Greenhills students present comedy sketches they've written and produced. *7 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. $5. 769–4010.*

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

"Hello Dolly!": Burns Park Players. *Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, 7, & 8.* Burns Park Elementary School students, parents, and friends perform Jerry Herman's long-running musical about a charismatic, opportunistic woman out to make a quick buck. Complications arise when she tries to play matchmaker to the wealthy Horace Vandergelder. The score includes such memorable songs as "Put on Your Sunday Clothes," "It Only Takes a Moment," and the title tune. These shows almost always sell out, so get tickets early. *7:30 p.m. (Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 & 7) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 8), Tappan Middle School auditorium, 2251 E. Stadium at Brockman. Tickets $15 (Patron tickets, $30) in advance at showtix4u.com and (if available) at the door. burnsparkplayers.org.*

John F. O'Donnell: Mix Studio Theater. Stand-up by this intense, self-deprecating comic whose routine covers everything from the information age to Leonard Cohen and is punctuated by bizarre riffs and angry diatribes that give the impression he's on the verge of coming unhinged. *7:30 p.m., Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $7 in advance at brownpapertickets.com/event/552248, and at the door. sehllbell178@gmail.com, emergentarts.com.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Martha vander Kolk calls to live music by Big Fun. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $10 (members, $9; students, $5). 662–9290.*

★**Piano Exchange Concert: U-M School of Music.** Performances by Eastman School of Music (New York) piano students. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XII": Kerrytown Concert House. An elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs showcasing noted local women singers, accompanied by pianist Jerry DePuit. Singers include Sue Booth, Carolyn Burnstein, Wendy Bloom, Shelley MacMillan, Lisa Gray, Roxy Diederich, Deanna Relyea, Susan Shipman, Monica Swartout-Bebow, and Kathy Waugh. Wine is served. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20–$50. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Next to Normal": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Jan. 30–Feb. 2.* Ron Baumanis directs local actors in Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey's Pulitzer- and Tony-winning rock musical about a suburban family coping with crisis and mental illness. The *New York Times* calls it "a feel-everything musical, which asks you, with operatic force, to discover the liberation in knowing where it hurts." The score's "rock 'n' roll jaggedness and vitality" shift "from dainty music-box lyricism to twanging country-western heartbreak," with songs such as "My Psychopharmacologist and I" and "Didn't I See This Movie?" Cast: Aynsley Martindale, Michael Smith, Kailey Schneemann, Samuel Plumb, Tyler Smith, Michael Joseph. *8 p.m. (Jan. 30–Feb. 1) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 2), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $25 (seniors age 60 & over, $22; students, $13; Thurs., $19) in advance at a2ct.org & by phone, and (if available) at the door. 971–2228.*

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Jan. 16–Feb. 16.* David Wolber directs the world premiere of David Wells' whimsical coming-of-age comedy, set in rural Kansas, about a 17-year-old girl, abandoned by her mother, who is entrusted to a foster parent who runs a truck stop when her lovable but irresponsible father is sent to state prison. Stars Alissa Nordmoe, Phil Powers, Julia Glander, and Emilio Rodriguez. *8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), & 3 p.m. (Jan. 25 & Feb. 15), Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $34 & $36 (Fri. & Sun.), $27 & $29 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., through Mar. 15.* Stephanie Buck directs local actors in Lanford Wilson's drama about a young prodigy who's searching for her birth

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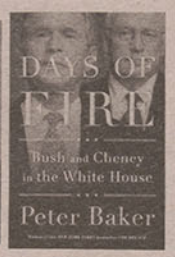
DAYS OF FIRE:
BUSH AND CHENEY IN THE WHITE HOUSE

PETER BAKER



Thursday, February 20
7:30 p.m.

Peter Baker, Chief White House Correspondent for *The New York Times,* takes us on a gripping and intimate journey through the eight years of the Bush and Cheney administration in a tour-de-force narrative of a dramatic and controversial presidency.

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FEBRUARY EVENTS

ARIEL QUARTET
ALISA WEILERSTEIN, CELLO

Wednesday, February 5, 7:30 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Wolf	Italian Serenade (1887)
Boccherini	Quintet in E Major, Op. 11, No. 5 (1771)
Schubert	Quintet in C Major, D. 956, Op. posth. 163 (1828)

SUPPORTED BY: Jerry and Glaria Abrams

MEDIA PARTNERS: WGTE 91.3 FM and Detroit Jewish News

KREMERATA BALTICA

Gidon Kremer, violin and conductor
Alexei Mochalov, bass
Thursday, February 6, 7:30 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Pärt	Cantus in Memory of Benjamin Britten (1977)
Weinberg	Concertino for Violin and Strings, Op. 42 (1948)
Britten	Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge, Op. 10 (1937)
Weinberg	Symphony No. 10 in a minor, Op. 98 (1968)
Shostakovich	Anti-formalist Gallery (ca. 1957)

POST-PERFORMANCE Q&A

SUPPORTED BY: Maxine and Stuart Frankel and the Renegade Ventures Fund and Penny and Ken Fischer

MEDIA PARTNER: WGTE 91.3 FM

ONE NIGHT IN BAMAKO
BASSEKOU KOUYATÉ AND NGONI BA
FATOUMATA DIAWARA

Friday, February 7, 8 pm
Michigan Theater

Two of Mali's greatest talents unite for one incredible concert. Bassekou Kouyaté is a visionary master of the *ngoni*, an ancestor of the banjo and Fatoumata Diawara is "the most beguiling talent to hit the world music scene in some time." *(Telegraph)* This joyous concert celebrates traditional African music-making with a twist of contemporary folk, jazz, and blues.

SPONSORED BY: Comerica Bank

MEDIA PARTNERS: WEMU 89.1 FM, Ann Arbor's 107one, and WDET 101.9 FM

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET

Friday Febrary 14, 8 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Haydn	Quartet in D Major, Op. 71, No. 2 (1793)
Martinů	Quartet No.5, H. 268 (1938)
Dvořák	Quartet No. 11 in C Major, Op. 61 (1881)

MEDIA PARTNERS: WRCJ 90.9 FM and WGTE 91.3 FM

NATIONAL THEATER LIVE IN HD
CORIOLANUS

Directed by Josie Rourke
Sunday, February 9, 7 pm
Michigan Theater

When an old adversary threatens Rome, the city calls once more on her hero and defender: Coriolanus. But he, too, has enemies at home. Famine threatens the city, the citizens' hunger swells to an appetite for change, and on returning from the field, Coriolanus must confront the march of realpolitik and the voice of an angry people. This Donmar Warehouse production of Shakespeare's searing tragedy of political manipulation and revenge features Tom Hiddleston *(War Horse film)* in the title role.

COMPAGNIE KÄFIG
CORRERIA AGWA

CCN de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne
Mourad Merzouki, artistic director and choreographer
Friday–Saturday, February 14–15, 8 pm
Power Center

This all-male dance company of incredibly talented Brazilans perform two heart-stopping works that showcase an irresistible cocktail of athletic samba, hip-hop, and capoeira dance styles, highlighting astonishing acrobatic skills and dazzling virtuosity.

POST-PERFORMANCE Q&A (FRIDAY)

SPONSORED BY: ART WORKS. | National Endowment for the Arts arts.gov

MEDIA PARTNERS: Metro Times and Between the Lines

JOSHUA BELL, VIOLIN

Sam Haywood, piano
Sunday, February 16, 4 pm
Hill Auditorium

UMS Distinguished Artist Award recipient Joshua Bell returns for a Valentine's weekend recital featuring works by Tartini, Beethoven, Stravinsky, and others.

SPONSORED BY: SESI

SUPPORTED BY: Dennis and Ellie Serras

MEDIA PARTNERS: WRCJ 90.9 FM and WGTE 91.3 FM

THÉÂTRE DES BOUFFES DU NORD
THE SUIT
DIRECTED BY PETER BROOK

Written by Can Themba,
Mothobi Mutoatse, and Barney Simon
Wednesday–Thursday, February 19–20, 7:30 pm
Friday–Saturday, February 21–22, 8 pm
Power Center

Directed by theater legend Peter Brook, *The Suit* "brims with a gentle effervescence and musicality that you associated with entertainments usually described, a bit dismissively, as charming," says the *New York Times*. "Yet even as it draws you in like the gregarious host of an intimate party, this story of adultery in apartheid South Africa is quietly preparing to break your heart."

POST-PERFORMANCE Q&A (WEDNESDAY)

SPONSORED BY: ART WORKS. | National Endowment for the Arts arts.gov

MEDIA PARTNERS: WDTET 101.9 FM, Michigan Radio 91.7 FM, and Between the Lines

ST. PETERSBURG PHILHARMONIC

Yuri Temirkanov, conductor
Denis Kozhukhin, piano
Saturday, February 22, 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Rimsky-Korsakov	Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh (excerpts)(1905)
Kancheli	...al ninte (2000)
Tchaikovsky	Piano Concerto No. 1 in b-flat minor, Op. 23 (1874-75)

A Prelude Dinner precedes the performance.
Reservations : 734.764.8489

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MEDIA PARTNERS: WTGE 91.3 FM and Detroit Jewish News

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ARGENTINE BURGER *grilled beef on a bakery roll with blue cheese, bacon, onion marmalade, crispy plantains, chimichurri, fried egg and sweet potato fries 14*

CUBAN SANDWICH *press-grilled on Avalon Telera Bread with smoked ham, braised pork shoulder, Manchego cheese, pickles and mustard aioli 14*

SHORT RIB MOJADO *braised beef stuffed in a crusty wambra roll with horseradish aioli, lettuce, cheese and posole-black bean jus 13*

LOBSTER SALAD SANDWICH *creamy lobster salad on house-baked, oven-dried tomato pan bread with shredded lettuce, queso fresco and ginger aioli 14*

CHIPOTLE TURKEY BURGER *grilled turkey on a bakery roll with avocado, feta cheese, seared fennel, caramelized bacon, smoked jalapeño aioli and sweet potato fries 11*

LENA'S VALENTINE'S WEEKEND
Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15

appetizers

WILD MUSHROOM SOUP *with sherry crème 7*

SEARED MUSSELS *with chorizo, white wine sauce and toasted baguette 9*

entrées

SHRIMP AND GRITS *with glazed vegetables and red chile sauce 21*

CHICKEN APANAO *breaded stuffed chicken breast, creamed spinach, vegetables and blood orange reduction 18*

GRILLED FILLET MIGNON *with seared cherry tomatoes, blue cheese, veal demi-glaze and glazed vegetables 26*

dessert

CHOCOLATE DIPPED STRAWBERRIES *with chantilly cream 8*

PASSION FRUIT PARFAIT *with raspberry macaroons 8*

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father when she encounters a homeless veteran living in a redwood forest in Northern California. Cast: Rainbow Dickerson, Alex Leydenfrost, Michelle Mountain. *8 p.m. (Wed.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $27 (Wed. & Thurs.), $37 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $42 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433–7673.*

Sean Patton: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 30 & 31 and Feb. 1.* Local debut of this New Orleans–bred actor-comedian who's known for his irreverent, politically incorrect, but affectionate stories exploring the incorrigible comedy of human behavior. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $12 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: Dance Revolution. *Feb. 1 & 15 (tentative).* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. Preceded by beginner (7 p.m.) and advanced (8 p.m.) salsa lessons. See facebook.com/A2DanceRevolution for updated schedule. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5 ($8 includes lesson). (313) 808–0358.*

2 SUNDAY (GROUNDHOG DAY)

★**"The Essence of Tibetan Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** *Every Sun.* Talk by **Gelek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994–3387.*

★**Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. *Feb. 2:* Screening of volume 4 of ***The Long Search,*** Ronald Eyre's 1977 BBC film series on world religions. In this episode, he visits Rome, Spain, and England to explore the contemporary diversity and unity of the Catholic religious experience. *Feb. 9:* First Singles member reviews ***Between Shades of Gray,*** Ruta Sepetys' best-selling 2011 debut novel, based on survivor stories of Stalin's genocidal reign of terror in the Baltics, that is the 2014 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads selection. *Feb. 16 & 23:* U-M American culture and sociology professor Silvia Padraza screens (Feb. 16) and discusses (Feb. 23) ***Fremont, USA,*** a documentary about religious diversity in small-town America. *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Vance Room (Feb. 2), Curtis Room (Feb. 9), Monteith Hall (Feb. 16), & Lewis Room (Feb. 23), 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local composer-percussionist and teacher Aron Kaufman presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** *Every Sun. & Thurs.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *1–6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. umich.edu/~goclub.*

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun. & Tues.–Fri.* All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Fri.), modern constructed (Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Sun.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards (except Sun.). *1 p.m. (Sun.) & 6 p.m. (Tues.–Fri.), Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. $5 (Tues., free; Sun., $15 includes cards). 786–3746.*

★**"Engaging with Art": UMMA.** *Every Sun.* Docents lead tours of the UMMA collection, with themes based on their interests. *1 p.m. UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"The Affordable Care Act": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Feb. 2 & 15.* Washtenaw Health Initiative representatives discuss how the ACA will change insurance coverage options locally. Q&A. *1–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Comic Artists Forum: Ann Arbor District Library.** Local comics artist **Ryan Estrada,** creator of the webcomic character Welton Colbert, offers tips (via Skype) on how to build a career as an artist. Participants also work on their own comics; materials provided. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *1–3 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Marlin Whitaker and others call to music by the Stout Hearted String Band. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. Wear

Invasion of the Drones

Gallery Project is back

The skies will begin to thicken and swarm next year, when the Federal Aviation Administration opens up U.S. airspace to unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones. Initially developed and used by the military, drones are now being made for civil and commercial purposes and are widely expected to revolutionize the way we live. They'll deliver pizzas, monitor crops, and gather information about forest fires, according to a recent spate of news articles.

Not all of the news is positive, though. Opposition to drones includes horror at civilian deaths overseas and concerns for privacy at home. The coming invasion of drones is a complex and controversial issue, making it an ideal theme for an art exhibit by Gallery Project, known for exploring culturally significant topics and unconventional ideas through art.

Featuring more than thirty-five regional, national, and international artists, *Drones* includes works that creatively consider drones and their applications, capabilities, and potential impact on society. The exhibit is curated by Gallery Project co-founders Rocco DePietro and Gloria Pritschet, whose nonprofit gallery occupied 215 S. Fourth Avenue for eight years before vacating last year. "We're changing, not closing," Pritschet told the Observer at the time, and change has indeed been liberating for this self-described "gallery of ideas." It's expanded its audience by organizing *Drones* as a dual-site exhibit:

KATIE WHITNEY

James Freeman's UAV

it opened in a large warehouse in Detroit's Eastern Market before moving to its current location at the Ann Arbor Art Center.

Among several sculptural representations of drones, two large and particularly well-crafted works are *UAV,* a copper and ceramic dragonfly by Michigan artist James Freeman, and *Orcinus Messor Calestis, MDF,* a fantastical figure by Flint native Arnold Patrick Martin that is half airplane, half killer whale skeleton. Both works are uncanny: I was initially enchanted by their sleek and whimsical forms, but the longer I gazed, the more each sculpture struck me as strange, distant, dangerous. (In addition to sharp teeth, the killer whale is armed with missiles.)

To avoid drone surveillance and identification, try holding a broom in front of your face. Such is one tip offered by Sarah Buckius's *DIY Instructables: Drone-Proof Identity Protection,* a hilarious series of prints that illustrate absurd methods of disguise. Another innovative method of camouflage designed by the up-and-coming Brooklyn-based artist Adam Harvey is *Stealth Wear,* a collection of clothes made out of a metallic fabric that reflects heat, allegedly hiding the wearer from a drone's thermal-imaging camera. Harvey also offers the "Anti-Drone Burqa," an article of clothing that has already rendered its wearer invisible.

Not all of the works portray drones as ominous. The vivid photographs in *Domestic Drone Series,* by Los Angeles–based photographer Gregg Segal, feature drones handled by men—law enforcement officers, a research scientist—in vast and rich outdoor spaces where these flying robots promise to make certain jobs easier.

These are just a few of the surprising and cutting-edge works in *Drones.* Gallery Project, though uprooted, has lost none of its vigor. The exhibit runs through February 16.

—Stephanie Douglass

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower. *Snapshots from a Fleeting World: Altered Photographs by Sue Finley* (Feb. 4–Mar. 13). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Concordia University Kreft Center for the Arts, 4090 Geddes. *Dust on Our Shoes* (Jan. 28–Feb. 23). Photographs by U-M lecturer emeritus Michael Hannum. Reception & gallery talk, Feb. 14, 7–9 p.m. Tues.–Fri. noon–4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1–5 p.m. 995–4612.

Dancing Dog Gallery, 302 E. Liberty. *All Is Well* (Through Feb. 22). Photographs and mixed-media works by Sue Finley. Wed. & Thurs. noon–5 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 531–6565.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Graduate Student Art Exhibition* (Feb. 17–Mar. 12). Reception Feb. 19, 4–7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals), ***Main Hospital:*** *Stories of Strength: Paintings Inspired by African American History by Jon Onye Lockard; Vestiges: Oil, Watercolor, & Pastel Painting by Carol Luc; Something for the Soul: Fiber Art by Michele Sapp* (all exhibits run Feb. 10–Apr. 7). ***Taubman Center:*** *On the Line: Wire Drawings by Joel Armstrong; Metalmorphosis 2014: Works Michigan Metalsmiths Guild; Michigan Landscapes: Oil Paintings by James Lounsbury; Beauty from the Earth: Ceramics by Clay Gallery Artists* (all exhibits run Feb. 10–Apr. 7). Daily 8 a.m.–8 p.m. 936–ARTS.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Malcolm Rowry* (Feb. 4–Mar. 3). Multi-media paintings inspired by the artist's African American heritage. Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Art x 3* (Feb. 6–Mar. 1). Landscapes by oil painter Steve Allen, photographer Sylvia Ford, and watercolor painter Debra Golden. Reception Feb. 8, 5–7 p.m. Thurs.–Sat. 3–8 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480–2787.

U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, 2000 Thayer Bldg. (202 S. Thayer). *Miriam the Prophetess.* Through May 10. Mon–Fri. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. 763–9047. Etchings by Israeli artist Leora Wise.

U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, Audubon Room (in Room 100), enter from the Diag. *Plainly Spoken* (Feb. 1–Apr. 10). Exhibit of historical bookbindings from the U-M Special Collections Library and bookbindings that replicate books from various historical periods. Curated by book conservator Julia Miller, who gives a talk on the exhibit on Feb. 11 (see Events listing). Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m.–7 a.m. 763–2045.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *The Other Camera* (through Feb. 19). Photos by African photographers who photograph their own people, environments, cultures, and events. With particular emphasis on South Africa, the exhibit positions itself against dominant visual representations of Africa as "tribal" and "exotic." Reception Feb. 6, 5–6:30 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Lane Hall, 204 S. State. *4,000 Years for Choice: A Graphic Guide to Reproductive Justice* (Jan. 16–May 29). Posters about abortion and contraception by artist, activist, and researcher Heather Ault. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 647–0774.

U-M Museum of Natural History, 1109 Geddes. *Snake vs. Dinosaur: Caught in the Act* (opens Feb. 16). Exhibit about a prehistoric snake, highlighted by a sculpture by Chicago-area paleo-artist Tyler Keillor of the snake preying on a dinosaur hatchling. Opening celebration with educational activities, Feb. 16, noon–5 p.m. (see 16 Sunday Events listing). Mon.–Sat. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 763–4191.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *16 x 16* (through Feb. 15). Works in various media by 20 WSG member artists who have each invited another artist to exhibit with them. *Springs and Things* (Feb. 18–Mar. 22). Paintings by Middy Potter. Reception Feb. 21, 7–10 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

clean, nonmarking shoes. *2–5 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $8 (students, $5). 994–6494.*

★"In Search of Winter Wildlife": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for signs of birds feeding in the fields, coyotes hunting, and smaller mammals moving from woodland dens to wetlands. *2–4 p.m., Brauer Preserve, Parker Rd. just south of Waters Rd., Freedom Twp. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

Contact Improv. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. *2–4 p.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★"Kerry Tales: Groundhog Shadows and Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★"Open Play for Children with Autism": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids with autism in grade 5 & under (accompanied by an adult) invited to pet therapy dogs or find a quiet place to play with a variety of toys. Local developmental and behavioral pediatrician Rick Solomon is on hand to chat with parents and their kids. *2–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Design + Architecture": UMMA. *Feb. 2 & 23.* Docent-guided tour of the new Design Gallery and the current exhibition of architectural designs by Michigan architect David Osler. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Dora's Pirate Adventure": Skyline High School. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Next to Normal": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

★"Four Walls and a Leaky Roof": Nicola's Books. Local writer **Brenda Meisels** discusses her new novel, set in the late 1960s, about a woman who impulsively buys a dilapidated house in an effort to escape her abusive husband and make a home for herself and her children. Signing. Partial proceeds from sales of the book benefit SafeHouse. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Vic Strecher: Nicola's Books. This U-M School of Public Health innovation and social entrepreneurship director discusses ***On Purpose,*** his new graphic memoir—equal parts self-help guide, college lec-

COOPERATIVE
PRESCHOOLS
2014–2015
ENROLLMENT
OPEN HOUSES

Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool
Sat., Feb. 1 & Feb. 8
10am-12pm
1547 Miller Ave, Ann Arbor
585-5555 www.acornglen.org

Ann Arbor Nursery, Inc.
Sat., February 8, 10am-12pm
517 E. Washington Street, Ann Arbor
769-7966 www.a2preschool.org
(Child must be age 3 or 4 by Oct. 1, 2014)

First United Methodist Co-op Nursery
Wed., Feb 5, 10am-11:30am
(If snow day: Wed., Feb. 12, 10am-11:30am)
120 S. State Street, Ann Arbor
662-7660 www.fumcnpreschool.org

Glacier Way Westside Co-op Preschool
Mon., Feb 3, 12pm-1:30pm
Tues., Mar. 4, 6:30pm-8pm
900 South 7th Street, Ann Arbor
995-0707 www.glacierwaycoop.org

Stone School Cooperative Nursery
Sat., February 8, 10am-12pm
2811 Stone School Road, Ann Arbor
971-4820 www.stoneschool.org

Triangle Cooperative Nursery School
Sat., Feb 8, 10am-12pm
1432 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor
761-7688 www.trianglecoop.org

Ypsilanti Cooperative Preschool
Tues., Feb 4, 4pm-7pm
1110 West Cross Street, Ypsilanti
485-8775 www.ypsicoop.org

Please call the preschool's office for alternate date if open house falls on an official snow day.

The above listed schools admit students of any race, creed, color, national, and ethnic origin. For full nondiscrimination statements please visit the individual preschool's website.

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GLACIER HILLS
invites the community
to our campus to help celebrate
40 Years of friendship and engagement.

Oz in Ice

Join us
FEBRUARY 9th
4:00 - 7:00 pm
at the main entrance to
The Manor
at Glacier Hills

Ice Dreams of Plymouth, MI will showcase **10 ice sculptures** based on themes and characters found in the **Wizard of Oz** and demonstrate their ice carving talents. Beverages appropriate for the season will be served.

*This event is **FREE** and open to the public.*

GLACIER HILLS
1200 Earhart Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105
glacierhills.org 734-913-0730

ture, confessional, and time-travel adventure—that chronicles the difficulties he faced after his daughter died of a rare heart disease. Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Gemini: Michigan Friends Center. The popular Ann Arbor acoustic duo of twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits performs original songs and traditional music from around the globe in a benefit for the Friends Center. Preceded at 1:30 p.m. by snowman building (weather permitting) and a reception with mulled cider and treats. *3 p.m., Michigan Friends Center, 7448 Clarks Lake Rd. (off Waterloo Rd. west of M-52), Chelsea. Tickets $8 (family, $20) in advance and at the door. 475–1892.*

★**"Pipes, Bells, & Brass": EMU Music Department.** EMU university organist Michael Burkhardt, the Detroit Handbell Ensemble, and EMU student brass musicians perform solo and ensemble works for handbells, brass, and organ. *4 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 717–1569.*

★**"Music for Meditation": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** St. Andrew's rector Alan Gibson performs Bach's bass cantata "Ich habe genug," and Deborah Friauff directs the church's chancel choir in settings of the Nunc Dimittis by Weelkes, Stanford, Tallis, and Palestrina. *7:15–7:45 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 663–0518.*

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. *Every Sun.* All poets invited to compete in a poetry slam judged by a randomly chosen panel from the audience. Participants compete for points to qualify for an April 5 Slam-Off to determine the team that will represent Ann Arbor in the National Poetry Slam held in Oakland (CA) next August. The program begins with a brief poetry open mike and (usually) a short set by a featured poet. *8–11 p.m. (sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.), Silvio's, 715 North University. $5 suggested donation. 985–0736.*

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. *Every Sun.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including foxtrots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom (Feb. 2) & Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom (Feb. 9, 16, & 23). $5 ($10 includes lessons). 763–6984.*

"Chili Challis' UNclub Comedy Open Mike": Emergent Arts. *Every Sun.* Performances by aspiring and experienced comics from former *Tonight Show* staff writer Challis's comedy dojo. Emcee is Mark Sweetman. *8 p.m., Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 suggested donation. emergentarts.com.*

3 MONDAY

★**"Gender and Sexuality in Law and Religion": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies/Institute for Research on Women and Gender Symposium.** Daylong series of talks. *9 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Rackham Assembly Hall. Free. 763–9047.*

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 accompanied by a caregiver. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *10–11:30 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $7. 997–1553.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon., Jan. 6–Apr. 28.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($100 per semester dues for those who join). 665–9271.*

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10–11 a.m. & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.–noon), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Knitting: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Mon.* All ages invited to bring knitting projects to work on. Lunch available at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. ($5.50; age 60 & over, $3; reservations required). *11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. *12:30–4:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) and ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. *12:30–4 p.m. (Mon.) & Noon–3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $7 (members, $6) on Wed. & Thurs., $3 (members, $2) on Mon. 794–6250.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon. & Thurs.* All ages invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Lunch available at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. ($5.50; age 60 & over, $3; reservations required). *1–3:30 p.m. (Mon.) & 1–2:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. except Feb. 25.* All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.; 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch (Tues. & Wed.), 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy.; & 1–2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Mon.* All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. *1–3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"The Future of the Voting Rights Act: Is There One?": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** Talk by Yale law professor Heather Gerken. *4–5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–3893.*

★**"Ann Arbor Downtown Group Run": Running Fit.** *Every Mon.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain/snow or shine. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769–5016.*

★**"Banish the Winter Blues with Yoga": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to bring a mat or towel and dress comfortably for a yoga workout designed to perk you up. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Bodies in Motion": University Musical Society Night School.** *Feb. 3, 10, 17, & 24.* U-M dance professor Clare Croft leads a lecture-discussion and interactive exercises based on themes of upcoming dance performances. *Feb. 3:* **"Dance: The Basics,"** about the history of dance and about the U-M Dance Company show *Moving Pictures* (see 6 Thursday listing). *Feb. 10:* **"Technique, Virtuosity & Monsters,"** about hip-hop dance and Compagnie Kafig's *Correria* and *Agwa* (see 14 Friday listing). *Feb. 17:* **"Theatrical Bodies,"** about how actors perceive movement and Theatre des Bouffes du Nord's *The Suit* (see 19 Wednesday listing). *Feb. 24:* **"Body Experiments,"** about experimentation and innovation in dance and Jennifer Monson and DD Dorvillier's performance *RMW(a)/RMW* (see 26 Wednesday listing). *7 p.m., U-M Alumni Center, 200 Fletcher. Free. 764–2538.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon.* Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5. 395–7782, 769–1052, 426–0241.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($35 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Barry Aherne throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

4 TUESDAY

Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. *Every Tues. except Feb. 18.* All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. *9:45–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. $15 for the year. 665–0105.*

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11–11:30 a.m., Wed. 6–6:30 p.m., & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30*

a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for $5.50 (age 60 & over, $3) at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.; reservations required. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**Adults Tuesday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar, and at 1 p.m. **mah-jongg** and **sewing.** Also, at 1:30 p.m., **Yiddish Tish,** a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor. A Mindo Chocolate (Dexter) chocolatier discusses the process of **making chocolates,** from harvesting the beans in Ecuador to the finished product. All newcomers to the area, as well as longtime Ann Arbor area residents, invited. The program begins with lunch. *11:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Polo Fields Golf & Country Club, 5200 Polo Fields Dr. (off Zeeb Rd. north of Liberty), Scio Twp. $18. Preregistration required via email to highjs1@gmail.com. 929–2841.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *Every Tues.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. *Feb. 4:* Rutgers University Chinese literature professor Wendy Swartz on **"The Intertextual Brush: Philosophy in Early Chinese Poetry."** *Feb. 11:* Georgetown University history professor Micah Muscolino on **"Earth, Water, and Power: The Ecology of War in North China's Henan Province."** *Feb. 18:* Indiana University political science professor Scott Kennedy on **"From Ruletakers to Rulemakers: Chinese and Global Governance."** *Feb. 25:* U-M Center for Chinese Studies director Mary Gallagher on **"Use the Bottom to Squeeze the Middle: How to Understand Social Policy in Contemporary China."** *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**"Witchcraft, Justice, Human Rights: Current Concerns and African Examples": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Talk by U-M Afroamerican and African studies professor Adam Ashforth. *12:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Musical Meditations": Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church.** *Every Tues.* TBE cantor Annie Rose and St. Clare's music director John Goodell collaborate on musical programs TBA. *5:30–6:15 p.m., TBE/St. Clare's, 2309 Packard. Free. 665–4744.*

★**Tuesday Dinner Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Tues., through Mar.* Ten- to 20-mile ride, at various paces, along the well-maintained Border-to-Border Trail, to a restaurant in either Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti. Front & back lights required, reflective clothing strongly recommended. *6 p.m., meet at Wheels in Motion, 3400 Washtenaw. Free. 678–8297, 971–2121.*

★**Story Time: Bookbound.** *Every Tues. & Thurs. except Feb. 18 & 20.* Linda Zimmer reads stories for kids age 6 & under. *6 p.m. (Tues.) & 10:30 a.m. (Thurs.), Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/. Free. 945–3035.*

"The Secret Life of Preserves": Zingerman's Delicatessen. American Spoon (Petoskey) co-owner Noah Marshall-Rashid discusses the history of his family's business and offers taste samples of the fruit preserves it produces. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Zingerman's Events on Fourth, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $35. 663–3400.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *La Isla Bajo el Mar,* Isabel Allende's novel about the trials of a domestic slave in 18th-century Haiti. *6:45 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $8 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

★**"Floral Bouquets": Ann Arbor District Library.** Red Poppy Floral Design owner Tracy Swinburn leads a hands-on introduction to making a small hand-tied bouquet. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Theology on Tap–Southeastern Michigan.** *Feb. 4 & 27.* Conversations about theological themes, preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *Feb. 4:* Father James Conlon of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Father Dan Reim of St. Mary Student Parish, and other area priests are on hand to answer **"Everything You Ever Wanted to Ask a Priest (But Were Afraid to Do So)."** *Feb. 27:* Talk by a speaker TBA. Q&A. *7–9 p.m., Conor O'Neill's Celtic Room, 318 S. Main. Free. 707–1797.*

★**"Between Shades of Gray": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff lead a discussion of Ruta Sepetys' best-selling 2011 debut novel, based on survivor stories of Stalin's genocidal reign of terror in the Baltics, that is the 2014 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads selection. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tues.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($80 per semester dues for those who join). 355–7738.*

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70-member *a cappella* barbershop harmony chorus. *7–9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($26 monthly dues for those who join). 612–7580.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel, 445–1925.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Club members show their recent digital images & prints on various topics, including this month's assignment, **"To the Horizon."** *7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium, 1701 Newport. Free. 327–4781.*

★**"The Coming of World War I and the Fall of the Spirits of Darkness": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Former Henry Ford Museum curator of industry John Bowditch discusses the material and spiritual causes of WWI. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 276–5294.*

★**German Speakers Round Table.** *Every Tues.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453–2394.*

★**"The Killer Bs": University Philharmonia Orchestra (U-M School of Music).** Christopher James Lees conducts this music student ensemble in Berlioz's vibrant *Overture to Le Corsaire* and Brahms' sunny and intimate Symphony no. 2. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

5 WEDNESDAY

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabble Club.** *Every Wed.* Word freaks of all abilities invited to drop in to play this popular word game. Bring your own set, if you like. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084, 277–7748.*

Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Wed.* All invited to play bingo. Cash prizes. *6–10 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 admission. $9 per game. 769–5911.*

★**"Ann Arbor West Group Run": Running Fit.** *Every Wed.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain/snow or shine. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 5700 Jackson. Free. 929–9022.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Nebraska. The U-M also has games this month against **Wisconsin** (Feb. 16, 1 p.m.) and **MSU** (Feb. 23, noon or 6 p.m.). *6:30 p.m., Crisler Center. Ticket prices TBA at mgoblue.com/tickets. 764–0247.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★**Health Talks: Nutritional Healing Center of Ann Arbor.** *Feb. 5 & 12.* Talks by NHCAA chiropractors. *Feb. 5:* Darren Schmidt on **"Heart Health."**

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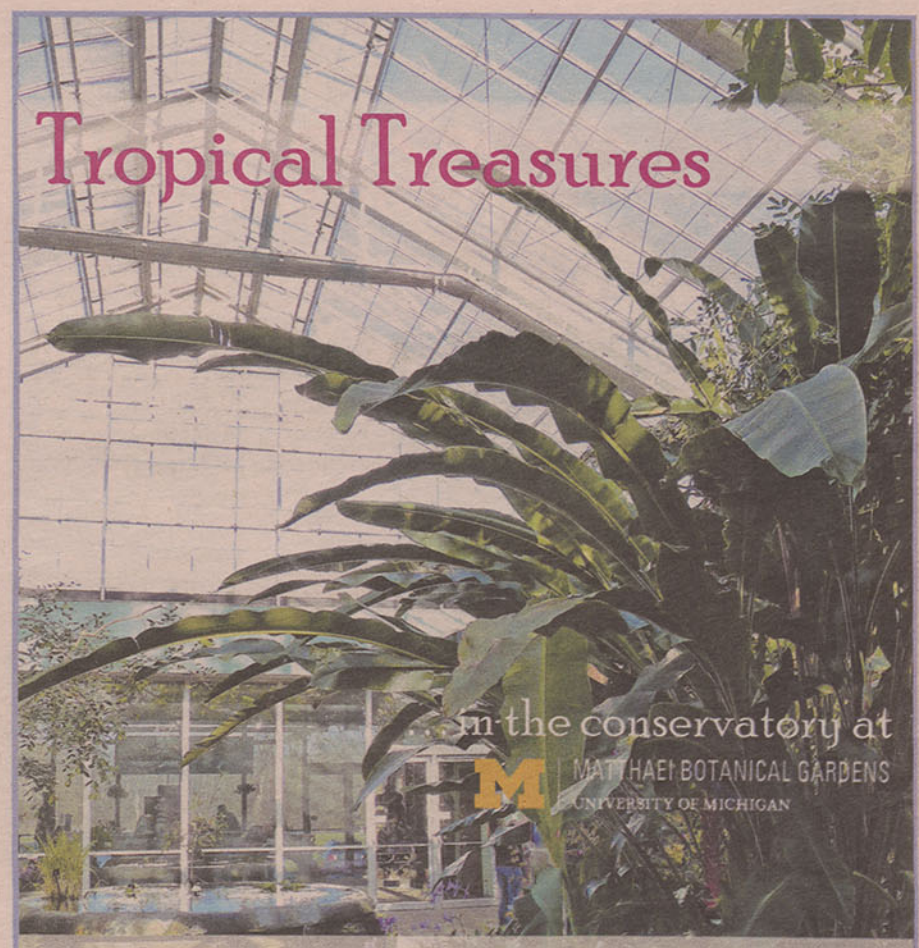

Plan your February escape!

The Garden of India ~ conservatory display ~ 1/25-3/9; open daily
Photography exhibit ~ "India As I See It" ~ images of India and its people
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Above: David Osler, Architect, *Mundus Residence, Ann Arbor, MI*, 1978, Courtesy of the Bentley Historical Library

This exhibition is part of the U-M Collections Collaborations series, which showcases the renowned and diverse collections of the University of Michigan. This series inaugurates UMMA's collaboration with the Bentley Historical Library, and is generously supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Lead support for *Three Michigan Architects* is provided by the University of Michigan Office of the Vice President for Research.

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART

Feb. 12: Amanda Childress on **"Anti-Aging."** *7–8 p.m., NHCAA, 3610 W. Liberty. Free. 302–7575.*

★**Charles Finch: Nicola's Books.** This acclaimed Oxford-based mystery writer, best known for his novels set in Victorian England, reads from ***The Last Enchantments,*** his contemporary novel about a young American who embarks on a year at Oxford and has a passionate affair that changes his life. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Barb Barton and Billy Brandt: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Performances by these 2 area singer-songwriters, who also talk about how they came to write the songs they perform. Barton is a veteran local singer-songwriter known for her entrancing folk-rock and New Age rhythms and captivating story songs, and Brandt is a veteran Detroit country-flavored folk-rock singer-songwriter. *7–9 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 12 Jackson, Chelsea. $15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330–5226.*

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** *Every Wed.* All invited to join a discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *How to Know Higher Worlds. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 485–3764.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss ***Dukedom Large Enough: Reminiscences of a Rare Book Dealer, 1929–1956,*** Indiana University Lilly rare book library curator David A. Randall's memoir. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

Ariel Quartet: University Musical Society. Formed in Israel in 1998 when its original members were in their teens, this award-winning quartet has achieved international recognition for the youthful spirit, raw energy, and sense of discovery its players bring to classical music. Tonight, the quartet—violinists Alexandra Kazovksy and Gershon Gerchikov, cellist Amit Even-Tov, and violist Jan Gruning—is joined by respected American cellist **Alisa Weilerstein** in Wolf's *Italian Serenade,* Boccherini's Quintet in E major, and Schubert's Quintet in C major. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $24–$46, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

★**Student Composers Concert: U-M School of Music.** Program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wed.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Ryan Halsey hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. Followed at 11 p.m. by **"Late Night @ Silvio's"** swing dancing (see Nightspots). *9–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (except Feb. 12, Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom), $5 (students, $4; $1 discount for members). 945–8428.*

6 THURSDAY

★**Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thurs.* A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch ($3) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. *Feb. 6:* Jill and Nate Lada discuss their **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) business Green Things Farm.** *Feb. 13:* An eclectic mix of pop, jazz, and classical music by local pianist **Lillian Freedland.** *Feb. 20:* TBA. *Feb. 27:* Anne Lawrence, a longtime collector of traditional clothesline memorabilia, discusses **"The Love, Lure, and Lore of the Clothesline."** *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** *Every Thurs.* Local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a study group on this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. *Noon–1:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Free. 646–6585.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** *Feb. 6, 20, & 27.* Talks by visiting scholars. *Feb. 6:* Princeton University musicology professor Noriko Manabe on **"Antinuclear Protest Music in Post–3.11 Japan: Communication Methods in Cyberspace, Recordings, Festivals, and Demonstrations."** *Feb. 20:* University of Illinois–Springfield history professor Peter Shapinsky on **"The Greatest Pirate in Japan."** *Feb. 27:* Emory University history professor Jeffrey Lesser on **"Nikkei and the Construction of a Multicultural Brazil."** *Noon, 1636 International Institute/SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.*

★**"Climate Action Workshop": WCC.** *Feb. 6, 13, & 20.* Talks by WCC renewable energy professor Dale Petty. *Feb. 6:* **"Getting Out of Hot Water"** includes tips on how to reduce the carbon footprint of your hot water, home heating and cooling, and household waste. *Feb. 13:* **"Re-Energizing Your Life"** includes tips on how to reduce the carbon footprint of your electricity, transportation, and food. *Feb. 20:* **"Pass It On!"** Discussion of how to create your own plan for environmental activisim. *Noon–2 p.m., 151 WCC Technical Industrial Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. petty@wccnet.edu.*

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *Feb. 6:* **"Musical Jazz History"** by Chaz & Friends. *Feb. 13:* Vintage American pop by the octet **Etcetera.** *Feb. 20:* West African *kora* (lute-like instrument) music by Senegalese musician **Djely Mady Kouyate.** *Feb. 27:* International jazz by the local **Dave Sharp World Jazz Trio.** *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★**Coffee Break Concert Series: First Baptist Church.** U-M organ majors Joshua Boyd, Sherri Brown, Ye Mee Kim, Jenna Moon, and Dean Robinson perform music by Frank, Mendelssohn, Widor, and others on the church's 3-manual Robert Noehren organ. *12:15 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663–9376.*

★**"Anthropologizing Europe": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** University of Toronto history professor Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi discusses late–18th and early–19th century Indo-Persian accounts of "native" Europeans. *4–6 p.m., 1636 SSWB/International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 647–4143.*

★**"The Janus of Tiger: Korean Decorative Painting": U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies.** Lecture by Gyeongju University scholar Byung-mo Chung. *4–5:30 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–3166.*

★**Drop-in Crafting Night: Ophir Crafts Store.** *Every Thurs.* All crafters invited to bring projects to work on. *5–8 p.m., Ophir Crafts Store, 2507 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 794–7777.*

★**"WCBN's *Living Writers* with T Hetzel: Maria Cotera": Literati Bookstore.** Live broadcast of WCBN-FM radio host Hetzel's interview with U-M women's studies and American culture professor Cotera on Cotera's writing and her approach to student writing. Cotera's work revolves around Chicana feminist thought and practice. Q&A with students. *5–6 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** *Feb. 6, 13, & 20.* Talks by visiting artists. *Feb. 6:* **Degenerate Art Ensemble,** a Seattle-based collective whose work is inspired by punk, comics, cinema, nightmares, and fairytales. *Feb. 13:* Internationally renowned poster artist **Luba Lukova.** *Feb. 20:* South African technology journalist **Toby Shapshak** and tech innovator **Erik Hersman.** *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

★**Diane Seuss: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Poetry reading by this Michigan native, a writer-in-residence at Kalamazoo College whose award-winning 2nd collection, *Wolf Lake, White Gown Blown Open,* explores themes of love, sex, and death from a variety of perspectives. "In these fractured, yet lyrical, narratives and voices, there is a remarkable new way of approaching the terrible clarity of beauty and horror in this world," writes local poet Laura Kasischke. *5:10 p.m., UMMA auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330, mslevad@umich.edu*

★**Hands-On Science Fun: Ann Arbor District Library.** Hands-on science and engineering experiments and interactive demos for kids in grades K–5 presented by U-M students from the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and Proyecto Avance: Latino Mentoring Association. *6:30–7:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $7. 761–6691.*

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. *7 p.m.,*

CUBS' AC in Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. $10. 973–6084, 663–0036.

★"Sunday Schools: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon. Panel discussion with Bethlehem United Church of Christ associate pastor Greg Briggs and Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth youth education teachers Kellie Love and Heide Kaminski. Moderated by Lauren Zinn, an interfaith minister who runs her own after-school religious education program. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

"Lunafest: Short Films by, for, and about Women": U-M Students Against Rape/Take Back the Night. Screening of films that cover topics such as women's health, motherhood, body image, aging, cultural diversity, and breaking barriers. Refreshments. *7 p.m., U-M Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $12 (students with ID, $10) in advance at tbtnannarbor.org; $15 at the door. lunafest.org, (248) 342–6351.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Feb. 6–Mar. 2.* This local professional company performs Lionel Bart's popular musical adaptation of Dickens's *Oliver Twist,* the tale of an orphaned boy who falls in with a band of pickpockets in Victorian London. The score includes many popular hits, including "Where Is Love?," "Food, Glorious Food," "As Long As He Needs Me," and the title tune. Cast: *7 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 3 p.m. (Sat., Sun. & Feb. 27), Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets $32 (seniors age 60 & older, $30; youth age 17 & under and groups of 10 or more, $28) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268–6200.*

★Comhaltas. *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *7:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. 255–5310.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

Kremerata Baltica: University Musical Society. Latvian violinist Gidon Kremer leads this Grammy-winning chamber orchestra that he founded in 1997 to foster young musicians from Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. "His 23 string players produce exquisitely shaded, gorgeous ensemble work," writes a *Los Angeles Times* reviewer. Tonight's program commemorates the centennial of Britten's birth with Pärt's *Cantus in Memory of Benjamin Britten* and Britten's *Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge.* Also, Mieczyslaw Weinberg's Symphony no. 10 in A minor and Concertino for Violin and Strings, and Shostakovich's *Anti-formalist Gallery.* With bassist **Alexei Mochalov,** a principal soloist with the Moscow State Chamber Musical Theatre. *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $10–$60, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Moving Pictures": U-M Dance Company. *Feb. 6–9.* U-M dance students perform works by guest artist **Andrea Miller,** founder of Gallim Dance, a NYC-based company acclaimed by the *New York Times* for its "voluptuously polyglot choreography" and by *New York Press* for its "delicious strangeness, fierce aggression, and raw beauty." Miller presents her *Pupil Suite,* a work for 14 dancers characterized by wildly quirky and demanding movement as it shifts through a series of vignettes evoking everything from the possibility of intimacy to the madness of the imagination and the joy of movement. It is set to music by the Israeli band Balkan Beat Box. Also, works by U-M dance professors **Melissa Beck, Bill De Young,** and **Peter Sparling.** Beck's *Beautiful Wreck,* set to Mahler's Symphony no. 5 in C minor, is a work for 12 dancers that explores the metaphorical and physical connection between bridges and water, and De Young's *Unbearable Lightness* is a group work set to a live performance of Israeli composer Matti Kovler's similarly titled work for 7 basses that was in turn inspired by the Milan Kundera novel *The Unbearable Lightness of Being.* Sparling debuts *Vox Femina (Girl Talk),* a work for 19 dancers set to a range of vocal music from Handel to the Stovall Sisters (a 70s Southern gospel funk girl group) to NYC R&B icon Laura Nyro. The dancing is framed by 2 projection screens of highly kinetic video imagery. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Power Center. Tickets $22 & $28 (students, $10) in advance at the Michigan League and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

★U-M Graduate Percussion Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Joseph Gramley and Jonathan Ovalle direct percussion grad students in the Michigan premiere of Martin Bresnick's *Caprichos Enfaticos* with guest pianist Melissa Coppola, as well as works by John Luther Adams, Frederick Andersson, and Alberto Ginastera. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Derick Lengwenus: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Feb. 6–8.* Acclaimed French Canadian comic known for his hilarious character performances, including a popular autobiographical routine about his German father. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $8 (Thurs.) & $11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

7 FRIDAY

★Agility Trials: Ann Arbor Dog Training Club. *Feb. 7–9.* Dog trainers lead their animals through an obstacle course and jumps of various heights. Spectators welcome. *8 a.m.–early afternoon, Canine Sports Recreation Center, 7275 W. Joy Rd., Dexter. Free to spectators. 995–2801.*

★"Rabbi Levy's Lunch and Learn": Temple Beth Emeth. *Every Fri.* Rabbi Robert Levy leads an informal discussion about the intersection between religion and science. Bring a bag lunch. *Noon–1 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge, 2309 Packard. Free. 665–4744.*

★"Dr. Martin Luther King's Vision, Social Transformation, and Contemporary Latina/o Arts": U-M American Culture Department. Panel discussion by U-M faculty, including theater professors Anita Gonzalez and Ashley Lucas, music professor Jonathan Ovalle, and Romance languages & literatures professor Nilo Couret. Lunch provided. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 3512 Haven Hall. 505 S. State. Free. 647–9535.*

★Lunchtime Tour: UMMA. UMMA staff and student docents give a 30-minute tour based on a theme in the museum's collection. *12:15–12:45 p.m., meet at the UMMA information desk, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"Movement Aesthetics in Chinese Classical Sword and Water Sleeve Dance": U-M Confucius Institute. Lecture by U-M Asian languages & cultures professor Emily Wilcox, with demonstrations by members of the Beijing Dance Academy. *4–7 p.m., Pierpont Commons, corner of Bonisteel and Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–8888.*

★42nd Winter Carnival: Chelsea American Legion Post 31. *Feb. 7–9.* Three days of cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and other winter fun (weather permitting) at Cavanaugh Lake. Also, a **euchre tournament** ($5 entry fee; prizes) on Feb. 7 at 7 p.m., and a **chili cook-off** (1 p.m. tasting and judging) and **dancing** to classic and contemporary rock by the Manchester band **Star 69** (8:30–11:30 p.m.) on Feb. 8. The weekend competitive **ice fishing derby** (weather permitting) runs 7 a.m.–5 p.m. on Feb. 8 and 7 a.m.–1:30 p.m. on Feb. 9. Refreshments, breakfasts, and lunches available. Raffle. *4 p.m.–midnight (Feb. 7), 7 a.m.–midnight (Feb. 8), & 7 a.m.–3 p.m. (Feb. 9), American Legion Hall, 1700 Ridge Rd. (off Cavanaugh Lake Rd. from Kalmbach Rd. north from I-94 exit 156), Chelsea. Free admission. To enter the chili cook-off, call Larry Doll at 260–1540. 475–1964.*

★"Fun Friday": U-M Natural History Museum. With screenings of the 30-minute planetarium show ***Star Talk*** (5:30, 6:30, 7:30, & 8:30 p.m.) about what you can see in the current night sky, a reading of Paul & Henrietta Strickland's ***Dinosaur Roar!*** (6 & 7 p.m.) with images from the book projected on the planetarium dome, and a 30-minute **dinosaur tour** (7 & 8 p.m.). Kids must be accompanied by an adult. Space limited for each event. *5–9 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free admission. Planetarium shows are $3. 764–0478.*

Sauerkraut Supper: Bethlehem United Church of Christ. Sauerkraut, pork, spätzle, mashed potatoes, veggies, and homemade pies. *6–7:30 p.m., Bethlehem UCC, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets $12 (kids age 10 & under, $5) in advance & at the door. 665–6149.*

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine and challah, and discussion on a theme TBA. Children welcome. *6:30–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 (family, $25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975–9872.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

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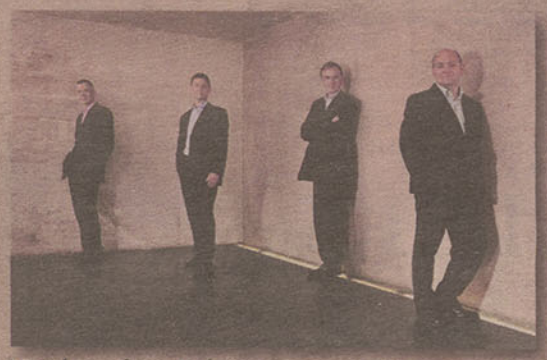

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Wednesday, February 12 · 8:00 p.m.
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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$40 Reserved*/$30 General
* Current Academy members may purchase reserved tickets at general admission price.

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The University of Michigan branch of the Institute for Complex Adaptive Matter and
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at the University of Michigan
announce:

Fathoming Consciousness:
Meaning and Measurement

A symposium free and open to the public
Friday 14 February 2014
4th Floor Rackham
University of Michigan
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
No registration required
Coffee and snacks provided

Consciousness and the Dying Brain
George Mashour -- UM, Neuroscience and Anesthesiology

That Which is Clear and Knowing: Buddhist Views of Consciousness
Donald Lopez -- UM, Asian Languages and Cultures

The Diverse Accounts of Consciousness Now Available, and a Possible Way to Get Past Them
Paul Churchland -- UC San Diego, Philosophy

Levels of Consciousness
John Holland -- UM, Psychology and Complex Systems

Evolutionary Approach to Artificial Consciousness
Chris Adami -- Michigan State University, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Organizers:
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★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including poet **John Buckley** and fiction writer **Blair Austin.** *7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

Aaron Tan. This award-winning local pianist and organist performs works ranging from Renaissance England to 20th-century America. The program is highlighted by Mozart's joyous and effervescent Sonata in F major, Samuel Barber's *Excursions,* and Schumann's exceptionally difficult Toccata in C major, which Schumann is believed to have injured his hands trying to master. Proceeds benefit the Boychoir of Ann Arbor. The program also includes works by Orlando Gibbons, Rachmaninoff, Stravinsky, and Debussy. *7 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. Free, but donations accepted. aarontan.org.*

"Hoedown Skate": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Funky Frosty Friday. All invited to wear cowboy or cowgirl hats and skate to country & Western music. *7:15–8:45 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. $6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, $5). $1 discount for city residents. Skate rentals available ($3). 761–7240.*

★Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. *Feb. 7 & 21.* All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Steiner's *The Gospel of St. John.* Familiarity with Rudolf Steiner's basic ideas is helpful. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 944–4903.*

"The Sound of Music": Huron High School Players. *Feb. 7–9.* Jeffrey Stringer directs students in Rodgers and Hammerstein's beloved 1959 musical about a sprightly nun-in-training who becomes a governess to a widowed navy captain's seven children. When the captain's pro-Nazi fiancee tries to oust her, the ensuing spat bears unexpected results. Highlights of the popular score include "So Long, Farewell," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen," "My Favorite Things," and the poignant "Edelweiss." *7:30 p.m. (Feb. 7 & 8) & 3 p.m. (Feb. 9), HHS Meyers Auditorium, 2727 Fuller. Tickets $15 (students, seniors, & HHS staff, $10) in advance at showtix4u.com. 994–2096.*

"Hello Dolly!": Burns Park Players. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. *Feb. 7 & 21.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. *8–10 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764–3440.*

★U-M Symphony Band: U-M School of Music. Michael Haithcock conducts this music student ensemble in works that each blend something old with something borrowed and something new. Program: Druckman's *Engram,* the Introduction and Allegro from Strauss's Symphony in E-flat major (*Happy Workshop*), Penman's *The Pilgrimage of Fire and Earth,* and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition.* Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program by U-M percussion professor Joseph Gramley and Haithcock. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Shari Kane & Dave Steele: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Local husband-and-wife duo of acoustic guitar virtuosos whose repertoire includes both traditional and original blues, gospel, swing, and ragtime. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

Mischka Seo: Kerrytown Concert House. This powerful and versatile South Korean jazz drummer celebrates the release of her debut album, *Mischka.* With South Korean pianist **John Nam,** local saxophonist **Diego Rivera,** and a bassist TBA. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"One Night in Bamako": University Musical Society. Double bill. Two of Mali's most esteemed and original musicians, *ngoni* player **Bassekou Kouyate** and Paris-based singer-songwriter **Fatoumata Diawara,** unite for a concert celebrating their West African musical heritage. A virtuoso picker and musical visionary, Kouyate has transformed the sound and playing of the ngoni—a traditional West African lute akin to the banjo—through electric solos blending West African music with the style and storytelling aspects of American blues. His backing band, Ngoni Ba, features four ngoni players, including his sons Moustafa and Mamadou, who create pointillist modal grooves highlighted by vocals from Kouyate's wife, Amy Sacko. Malian guitarist Diawara's acclaimed 2011 debut album, *Fatou,* mixes jazz, pop, and funk with the sounds of Wassoulou, a song style credited as an African ancestor of American blues. "Her well-crafted songs are often light and breezy, but her soulful voice brings a bluesy depth and potency that can stop you in your tracks," writes a *Time*

reviewer. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. $20–$50, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

★"An Evening of Scenes": U-M Residential College Players. *Feb. 7 & 8.* RC students direct and perform this popular semiannual 90-minute program of short scenes on a variety of topics and in a variety of styles, many written by RC students. *8 p.m., 1324 East Hall, 525 East University. Free. 647–4354.*

★"The Play's the Thing": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Feb. 7–9 (different programs).* Local actors read new works by local playwrights. Followed by audience feedback. *8 p.m. (Feb. 7 & 8) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 9), A2CT Studio Theater, 322 W. Ann. Free. 971–2228.*

"Moving Pictures": U-M Dance Company. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Derick Lengwenus: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Friday Night Swing (& Blues)": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Feb. 7, 14, & 28.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. Followed at 11:30 p.m. by blues dancing. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *9 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $5 (students with ID, $3; $1 discount for AACTMAD members) includes lessons. 417–9857.*

8 SATURDAY

10th Annual Ice Fishing Derby: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. Kids and adults can compete in 2 divisions. Prizes for "Longest Northern Pike" and "Longest Pan Fish." Bring your own bait. No alcohol, ATVs, or snowmobiles. *7 a.m.–5 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. $10 (kids 12 & under, $5), includes park entry fee. 449–4437, ext. 203.*

★Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. *Feb. 8 & 15.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. *Note:* Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16–18 must submit a permission form. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Feb. 8), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Feb. 15), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free (metered parking at Matthaei). Preregistration required by phone or email. tgriffit@umich.edu, 647–8528.*

Huron Gun Collectors. *Feb. 8 & 9.* About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. *9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Admission $4. (517) 605–0624.*

"Gamers for Giving 2014": Gamers Outreach. *Feb. 8 & 9.* Thirty-six-hour video game event, with tournaments including Call of Duty, Halo, Killer Instinct, StarCraft 2, and League of Legends. A benefit for Gamers Outreach, a charity that creates portable video game carts for kids at children's hospitals. *10 a.m. Feb. 8–10 p.m. Feb. 9, EMU Student Center Ballroom, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. $25 (all tournaments except Killer Instinct, $20). Preregistration required at gamersforgiving.org.*

★"Recycled Paper-Making Craft": Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department. All invited to re-make paper to fashion a handcrafted valentine. Followed by guided tours of the city's recycling and trash processing center. *10 & 11:30 a.m., Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

★"Adventures in Home Orcharding": Project Grow. Project Grow instructor Royer Held discusses the basics of establishing and maintaining a fruit orchard in your yard. *10 a.m.–noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. Preregistration requested. 996–3169.*

"Music from Our Youth": Kerrytown Concert House. Several local professional musicians perform a program of classical music geared toward kids ages 7–12. With violinists **Gabe Bolkosky** and **Alicia Doudna,** cellist **Andrea Yun,** and pianist **Amy I-Lin Cheng.** *10 a.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department. *Feb. 8, 15, & 22.* Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M and visiting scholars. *Feb. 8:* **"Powering Cosmic Processes by Star Light."** U-M astronomy professor Sally Oey discusses the power of ultraviolet radiation from massive stars. *Feb. 15:* **"Where the Solar Wind Blows."** U-M atmospheric sciences professor Susan Lepri discusses the gaseous wind from the sun and how it influences objects in the solar system. *Feb. 22:* **"Sculpting the Universe."** Ohio State University astronomy professor David Weinberg discusses his collaboration with artist Josia McElheny on the design of cosmologically inspired sculptures that represent the history of the expanding universe. *10:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764–4437.*

★"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA. U-M student docents and UMMA staffers read stories related to the art on display. Followed by an art activity. For kids ages 4–7 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. *11:15 a.m., UMMA (meet at the information desk), 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Rusalka": Quality 16. Live broadcast of the **Metropolitan Opera** production of Dvorák's tragic opera based on Czech fairy tales about a water nymph who falls in love with a human prince. Director Michael Mayer has placed this new production in 1960 Las Vegas. Renee Fleming stars in one of her signature roles, with Piotr Beczala and Dolora Zajick. Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts. The broadcast is reprised on tape on Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. *12:55–5 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets $23 (seniors, $20; kids age 12 & under & students, $13.50) in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623–7469.*

★"Homemade Chocolates": Downtown Home & Garden. Popular local chocolatier **Nancy Biehn** of Sweet Gem Confections shows how to prepare a dipping chocolate and offers tips on preparing fine chocolates at home. Participants can dip a berry or truffle to eat. *1–4 p.m., Downtown Home & Garden, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662–8122.*

Chinese New Year Celebration: Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan. Games (1:15–2:45 p.m. and 7–8:30 p.m.), performances by Ann Arbor Chinese School students (3–6 p.m.), and dinner (6–9 p.m.) to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Raffle. *1:15–9 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Cost TBA. principal@aaccom.org.*

★"21st Annual Winter Walkabout": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy. All invited for snacks, warm drinks, and socializing, followed at 2 p.m. by a drive 1 mile south for a leisurely 90-minute walk through the 424-acre LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve to look for animal tracks and enjoy the winter landscape. Dress for the weather; in case of inclement weather, call or check smlcland.org or facebook.com/southeastmichiganlandconservancy. *1:15 p.m., Superior Township Hall, 3040 N. Prospect at Cherry Hill, Superior Twp. For the walk only, park on Vreeland just east of Prospect. Free; donations accepted. 484–6565.*

Victorian Valentine Tea: Kempf House Museum. *Feb. 8 & 9.* An elegant traditional tea with a menu that includes both sweets and savories. With romantic piano music played on the Kempf family's 1877 Steinway and display of a refurbished period dollhouse. This popular annual fundraiser usually sells out well in advance. *1:30 p.m. (Sat.) & 4 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Kempf House, 312 S. Division. $25 (members, $20). Reservations required. 994–4898.*

"Minhwa at Michigan: A Hands-On Demonstration": UMMA/Ann Arbor Art Center. All adults and kids age 13 & older invited to learn the history of Korean folk painting and try its techniques. *2–4 p.m., UMMA Multipurpose Room, 525 S. State. $5 (includes materials). Preregistration required at annarborartcenter.org or by phone. 994–8004.*

★"Conversation Heart Beads": Ann Arbor District Library. Valentine's Day craft activity for adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

"Hello Dolly!": Burns Park Players. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

★Jazz Festival Awards Concert: U-M School of Music. Dennis Wilson directs the **U-M Jazz Lab Ensemble** in works TBA. With saxophonist **Lisa Hittle** and trumpeter **Leonard Foy.** *4:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids in grades K–5 invited for a pizza dinner and dessert, games, craft activities, and a screening of a movie TBA. *6:30–10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $15 (members, $10), $13 (members, $8) for additional siblings. Reservations required. 971–0990.*

"Chocolate Crush": Wild Swan Theater Fundraiser. Fancy chocolate treats from local chocolate makers, along with savory appetizers, wine, and beer. Also, live music by **Brian Delaney's Butterscotch Dandies** and silent and live auctions. *6:30 p.m., Lake Forest Golf Club, 3100 W. Ellsworth. Tickets $60 & $125. wildswantheater.org, 995–0530.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Dancing to recorded music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. The program begins with a les-

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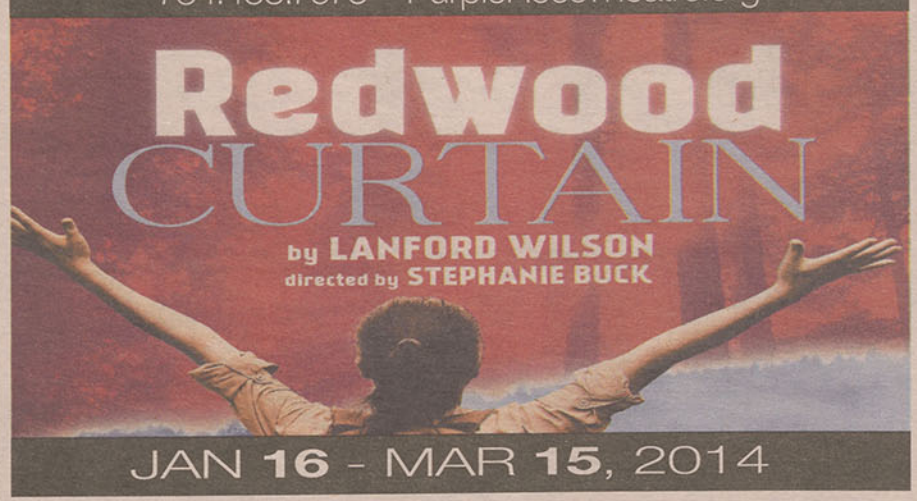

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Events at the **Institute for the Humanities**
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Photo
Lindeka Qampi, *Street portrait in front of advertising mural*, Khayelitsha, Cape Town. c. 2008-13.

The Hub
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Jan 22 — Feb 19 — *The Other Camera*, an exhibit curated by **Paul Weinberg**, gallery hours: M-F 9am-5pm
Feb 6 — Opening Reception for *The Other Camera*, 5-6:30pm
Feb 7 — May 5 — *State of Exception*: MOCAD, museum hours: W, Sat, & Sun: 11am–5pm; Th & F: 11am–8pm; closed M & T
Feb 7 — *State of Exception*: MOCAD, roundtable discussion, 12:30pm (held at Institute for the Humanities)
Feb 7 — Opening Reception for *State of Exception*: MOCAD, 7pm
Feb 9 — *State of Exception*: MOCAD, exhibition talk, 1pm
Feb 11 —*The Other Camera*, curator talk by **Paul Weinberg**, 12:30pm
Feb 26 — *Stop Making Sense; Constructs and Narratives, Real and Imagined*, 5:30pm, U-M Museum of Art

Author's Forum
A series on books & ideas presented in collaboration with the University Library, Ann Arbor Book Festival, and Great Lakes Literary Arts Center.
Author's Forum events are held in the Hatcher Graduate Library, Library Gallery, room 100, at 5:30pm.

Feb 12 — *Dear Edward: Family Footprints*: A Conversation with **Paul Weinberg** & **Daniel Herwitz**

FellowSpeak
Ongoing exchange with our fellows past and present.
Feb 4 — **Adam Ashforth** lecture: "Witchcraft, Justice, Human Rights: Current Concerns and African Examples," 12:30pm
Feb 18 — **Karla Mallette** lecture: "Lives of the Great Languages: Cosmopolitan Languages in the Pre-Modern Mediterranean," 12:30pm

Digital Currents
Humanities scholarship in and about digital environments.
Feb 13 — **Jessica Marie Johnson** lecture on African Diaspora history & digital humanities, 12:30pm
Feb 21 — Jill S. Harris Memorial Lecture by **Tanya Clement**, "A Brief History, A Few Principles, and Some Suggestions for Developing a Digital Humanities Undergraduate Curriculum," Michigan League, 911 N. University Ave, Koessler Room, 2pm
Feb 25 — **Anita Gonzalez** lecture: "Digital Play: Mapping Journeys and Digitizing Stories," 12:30pm

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son. *7–10 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5 (students, $3). 709–8748.*

"Tro Lai Tuong Lai": U-M Vietnamese Student Association Cultural Night. U-M students perform traditional and modern Vietnamese dances, music, and theater. Proceeds benefit the humanitarian organization Children of Vietnam. *7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $5 in advance. $10 (students, $8) at the door. umichvsaboard@umich.edu.*

"One World, One Spirit: Music from the Faiths of the World": First United Methodist Church. DuPage College (Chicago) choral director Lee Kesselman, an award-winning composer-arranger, directs the FUMC chancel choir and instrumental ensembles in a spiritual travelogue with music from faiths and philosophies around the world, with an emphasis on the Middle East. Reception follows. The concert is preceded, 5–7 p.m., by an **International Boutique,** with sale of artworks and crafts from Ten Thousand Villages, and at 6 p.m. by an **International Dinner** ($15; students, $8; family, $40; kids under 5, free) prepared by Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young. *7:30 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Freewill offering. 662–4536, ext. 0.*

"The Sound of Music": Huron High School Players. See 7 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $10. 822–2120.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Mark Hillegonds calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $10 (students, $5). 408–1829, 649–6426.*

"Valentine's Ragtime Trot": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Various dances that were popular from 1900 to the 1920s, with live music by the Huron Valley Serenaders. Period attire encouraged. Preceded at 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. by dance lessons. *8–11 p.m., Crossroads Community Center, 5501 Webster Church Rd., Dexter. $30 (includes lessons). Preregistration requested at vintagedance.com. 769–0041.*

★Jazz Festival Concert: U-M School of Music. Performance by the legendary jazz saxophonist **Jimmy "Little Bird" Heath** who's accompanied by U-M jazz piano professor Ellen Rowe and U-M percussion professor Michael Gould. Also, a performance by the U-M Jazz Ensemble. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"All on a Winter's Night with Harmony Bones": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Local singer-guitarist Jeanne Mackey is joined by her musical friends Laz Slomovits, Tom Voiles, and Linda Teaman for an evening of musical reflections on the season with rich harmonies and an array of instruments. The ad hoc ensemble's name, Harmony Bones, comes from an acupuncture point that harmonizes imbalances. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 665–0409.*

"Mr. B's Annual Birthday Bounce": Kerrytown Concert House. World-renowned local blues pianist **Mark "Mr. B" Braun** celebrates his birthday in this popular annual concert. An exuberant, powerful performer whose repertoire includes both boogie-woogie and blues classics and originals in the same mold, Mr. B has performed and recorded with world-class artists such as the late drummer J.C. Heard and Detroit percussionist Roy Brooks. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Moving Pictures": U-M Dance Company. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★"An Evening of Scenes": U-M Residential College Players. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

★"The Play's the Thing": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Derick Lengwenus: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

9 SUNDAY

★"Behind the Scenes Day": U-M Ruthven Museums. A rare chance to explore the inner workings of the 4 Ruthven museums—natural history, anthropology, paleontology, and zoology. *Noon–5 p.m., 2009 Ruthven Museums, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. Guided tour space limited; reservations recommended by calling 936–5834. 764–0478.*

★"Meals with Megafauna: Sabertooth Cats, Dire Wolves, Mastodons, and Man": U-M Natural History Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. *Feb. 9 & 15 (different locations).* U-M Natural History Museum staff present the 2nd in a series of 3 monthly programs exploring the different strategies predators and their prey have evolved to cope with each other. *1 p.m. (Feb. 9), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University, & 10 a.m. (Feb. 15), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. Preregistration required for the Feb. 9 event. 764–0480, 327–8301.*

The Verve Pipe Kids Show: Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series. Family concert by this veteran dance-rock band, led by West Michigan singer-songwriter Brian Vander Ark, whose 2009 family album, the helpfully titled *A Family Album,* was nominated for a Nickelodeon Parents Connect award. It features energetic guitar-based tunes on such topics as breakfast cereal and getting up in the morning. *1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $15 (MTF members, $12) in advance at ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

Waterloo Natural History Association. *Feb. 9 & 15. Feb. 9 (2–3 p.m.):* **"Circle of Life."** Binder Park Zoomobile (Battle Creek) naturalists display a variety of live animals from Africa and discuss how all living things are connected. *Feb. 15 (10 a.m.–2 p.m., Mill Lake parking lot, follow the signs from the north end of Pierce Rd., north off I-94 exit 157):* **"Family Ice Fishing and Bonfire."** All invited to watch an ice-fishing demo or try it yourself. Also, an area cleared for skating. Followed by a bonfire with hot cocoa and marshmallows to roast. Weather permitting. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

"Splash Day": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. *Feb. 9 & 23.* A family-oriented afternoon of pool games and contests. Prizes. *2–4 p.m., Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. $5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, $4). 794–6234.*

★"Make a Valentine's Day Card": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades pre-K to 5 invited to make a valentine card for a loved one or to share with a local hospital. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Colorblock Creeper Tote Bag": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a Minecraft-inspired cotton tote bag. Supplies provided. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Flip Your Field: Photography from the Collection": UMMA. Docent-guided tour of the current exhibit of traditional photographs of trees juxtaposed with uniquely manipulated photos. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"Romantic Rambling Roses": Huron Valley Rose Society. Slide-illustrated talk by a club member on rambling roses and the historical importance of roses for Valentine's Day. Q&A and refreshments. *2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647–7600.*

★Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 761–1451.*

Eric Comstock & Barbara Fasano: Kerrytown Concert House. This husband-and-wife duo of jazz singer-pianist Comstock and pop and jazz singer Fasano—winners of the 2010 New York Nightlife Award—is joined by Ann Arbor–bred guitarist Randy Napoleon in a program of popular songs by American composers Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen. *2 & 4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$35 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Moving Pictures": U-M Dance Company. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

★"The Play's the Thing": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 7 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"The Snow Queen": Hoover Street Dance Company. HSDC artistic director Colette Kenville directs this new local company of dancers ages 10–18 in the premiere of her ballet adapted from the Hans Chris-

tian Andersen fairy tale about a young girl who courageously sets out to free her friend who has been kidnapped by the beautiful but sinister Snow Queen. The 15 HSDC dancers are joined by guest star Jaclyn Borrow, a U-M Flint dance student, and several members of the U-M student ballet and lyrical dance troupe Salto. *3 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $15 (seniors & students, $10) in advance and at the door. 265–0740.*

"The Sound of Music": Huron High School Players. See 7 Friday. 3 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 mysteries set in France. Cara Black's ***Murder in the Marais*** concerns a tech investigator who unwittingly gets involved in solving a violent hate crime in Paris's historic Jewish quarter. Fred Vargas's ***Seeking Whom He May Devour*** is about a small Alps community where villagers suspect a loner of tearing the throat out of their sheep. *3:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

★**Martin Jean: Concordia University.** This Yale University organ professor, a Concordia and U-M alum and winner of the 2 most prestigious organ competitions in the world, performs works TBA. *4 p.m., Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–4612.*

★**"Oz in Ice": The Manor at Glacier Hills.** Show of 10 ice sculptures based on themes and characters from *The Wizard of Oz* as well as ice sculpting demonstrations by Ice Dreams (Plymouth) sculptors. Beverages. In celebration of Glacier Hills' 40th anniversary. *4–7 p.m., Glacier Hills Manor, 1200 Earhart. Free. 929–6782.*

★**All-Ensemble Concert: Temple Beth Emeth.** Performances of Jewish music by TBE choirs and bands. *4–7:30 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. 665–4744.*

★**"Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison": Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Piper Kerman's memoir that inspired the HBO show about a straight-laced upper-middle-class woman who gets sent to prison for delivering a suitcase of drug money when she was 10 years younger. *4:30–6 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

"Facets of Love: A Tribute to St. Valentine": Arbor Opera Theater Annual Valentine's Cabaret. This polished local opera company presents a program of opera, operetta, and musical theater love songs. *5:30 p.m., Mercy's Restaurant, 300 S. Thayer, Bell Tower Hotel. Tickets $25 (food not included) in advance & at the door. arboropera.com, 996–3729.*

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Feb. 9 & 23.* All singers, acoustic & electric guitarists, bassists, mandolinists, banjoists, ukulele players, percussionists, keyboardists, and other musicians invited to join organizer Michael Niemi to play folk, rock, country, or original tunes. Bring a music stand and copies of sheet music. Listeners welcome. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). Preregistration required for musicians at meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 794–6250.*

★**Composers Concert: University Symphony Orchestra (U-M School of Music).** U-M music students conduct the orchestra in works written by students of Bright Sheng, Evan Chambers, Michael Daugherty, Kristin Kuster, Paul Schoenfield, and Erik Santos. *7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"Coriolanus": University Musical Society/ National Theatre Live. Taped broadcast of the London-based **Donmar Warehouse** production of Shakespeare's searing tragedy about political manipulation and revenge. Directed by Josie Rourke, the play traces the rise and fall of the Roman general Coriolanus—played by film actor Tom Hiddleston—who returns home from war a hero but must flee into exile after his enemies turn popular opinion against him. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $22 (Michigan Theater & UMS members, $18; students, $12) in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538, (800) 221–1229.*

10 MONDAY

★**Socrates Café: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Feb. 10 & 24.* All ages invited to join a philosophical discussion that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. *10:30–11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

★**"Bruno Schulz's Sanatorium: Reflections on the Uneasy Afterlife of National Literatures": U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies Copernicus Lecture.** Talk by University of Illinois–Chicago Polish literature & culture professor Karen Underhill. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Money in Motion: Circulation in Early Modern Science, Political Economy, and Debates Over Currency and Banking": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program.** Talk by University of Illinois–Chicago history professor Jeffrey Sklansky. *4–5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 647–3766.*

"From Hobby to Business": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Rivertown Textiles (Bay City) owner JoAnn Bachelder discusses her weaving business. *7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. $5 (members, free). mtmm@umich.edu.*

★**"Confederate Failure in the Saddle": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.** Chicago-based Civil War historian Dave Powell discusses how the Confederate cavalry failed in the Chickamauga campaign. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. meeting room near the auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★**Gratitude Steel Band: Ann Arbor District Library.** Traditional African and Caribbean music and originals by this local ensemble that's celebrating its 25th anniversary. In conjunction with Black History Month. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Voice Faculty Chamber Music Ensemble: EMU Music Department.** Four EMU voice professors—sopranos **Emily Benner** and **MeeAe Nam,** baritone **Robert Peavler,** and mezzo-soprano **Monica Swartout-Bebow**—are accompanied by pianist Kevin Bylsma and guest instrumentalists TBA in a program of chamber music. *7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Chamber Music Concert: U-M School of Music.** U-M violin professor **Stephen Shipps,** Cambridge Piano Quartet violist **Danae Witter,** U-M cello student **Horacio Contreras,** and U-M piano professor **Bright Sheng** perform Beethoven's String Trio in G major, Sheng's Piano Trio, and Brahms' Piano Quartet in C minor. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

11 TUESDAY

"Monthly Brew Tea Series": TeaHaus. *Feb. 11 & 13.* TeaHaus staffers lead tastings of 3 teas, each paired with a treat made by the TeaHaus pastry chef. *10 a.m. (Feb. 11) & 7 p.m. (Feb. 13), TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. $15. Reservations required. 622–0460.*

★**"Thyme to Care for Houseplants": Good Thyme Garden Club.** All invited to join a discussion. *10 a.m., English Gardens, 155 N. Maple. Free. 730–2947.*

"Shifting the Paradigms of Sex/Politics/Religions: Issues of Sexual Identity, Gender Expression and Sexual Orientation Since 1969": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by U-M Multicultural & Gender Affairs Committee member Jim Toy, cofounder in 1971 of the U-M Spectrum Center, the world's first staffed office at an institution of higher learning to address the concerns of homosexual/bisexual orientation. Sixth in a series of 9 monthly lectures. *10–11:30 a.m., Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $65 (members, $45) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.*

★**"Plainly Spoken": U-M Library.** Former U-M senior book conservator Julia Miller discusses the current exhibit of bookbindings that replicate books from various historical periods as well as historical bindings from the U-M Special Collections Library. See Galleries listing. *4 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 763–2045.*

★**"Basic Beekeeping II": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** Club members discuss beekeeping equipment and basic hive construction. *7–9 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. meghanom@gmail.com.*

★**"Bulgarian Music and Dance": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to try Bulgarian line dances to live music by the local Bulgarian folk music trio **Veselba.** *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Nature's Operating Instructions: The True Biotechnologies": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss this book of essays by scientists, writers, economists, artists, and other leaders who offer solutions to pressing environmental problems. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

12 WEDNESDAY

"Under the African Sky": Wild Swan Theater. *Feb. 12 & 13.* This award-winning local children's theater presents a series of African folktales. With

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24TH ANNUAL DAVID W. BELIN LECTURE
IN AMERICAN JEWISH AFFAIRS

SUSAN A. GLENN
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

ANXIETY AND IDENTITY IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE HOLOCAUST

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2014, 7PM
FORUM HALL, PALMER COMMONS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ALTHOUGH SCHOLARS OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE HAVE CHARACTERIZED THE MID-CENTURY AS A "TIME FOR HEALING," A "GOLDEN AGE" FOR JEWS, AND A PERIOD CHARACTERIZED BY "THE EMERGENCE OF A COLLECTIVE SELF-CONFIDENCE AND SENSE OF WELL-BEING," SUSAN GLENN'S LECTURE WILL SHOW THAT THIS DESCRIPTION DISTORTS AS MUCH AS IT EXPLAINS. HER TOPIC IS THE "JEWISH COLD WAR"—A CONTENTIOUS JEWISH WAR OF WORDS OVER QUESTIONS OF INTRA-GROUP LOYALTY, THE MEANING OF JEWISH IDENTITY IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE HOLOCAUST, AND THE PROSPECTS FOR JEWISH GROUP "SURVIVAL" IN THE U.S. THIS INTRA-JEWISH WAR OF WORDS, WHICH PARALLELED AND DREW RHETORICAL ENERGY FROM AMERICA'S COLD WAR ERA PREOCCUPATIONS WITH THE EVILS OF COMMUNISM AND TOTALITARIANISM IN THE LATE 1940S AND EARLY 1950S, PITTED LIBERAL JEWISH INTELLECTUALS AGAINST JEWISH ETHNIC PARTICULARISTS AND NATIONALISTS, AND FORCED THE LIBERALS TO DEFEND THEIR PRINCIPLES IN THE FACE OF CHARGES OF DISLOYALTY TO THE JEWISH COLLECTIVITY.

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drumming and other music. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Appropriate for kids in grades pre-K–3. *Note:* All shows sold out except 1 p.m. performance on Feb. 12. *10 a.m. & 1 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (kids, $8; lap pass for kids age 2 & under, $3) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

★**Noon Lectures: U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies.** *Feb. 12 & 26.* Talks by U-M & visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch, if you like. *Feb. 12:* Middle Tennessee State University history professor Emily Baran discusses **"Weapons of the Watchtower: Jehovah's Witnesses and Resistance to Soviet Power."** *Feb. 26:* U-M history and Judaic studies professor Jeffrey Veidlinger discusses **"Jews and Ukrainians in the Soviet Shtetl: Memories of Small-Town Life."** *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**Brown Bag Organ Recital: U-M School of Music.** Performance by former Metropolitan Methodist Church (Detroit) organist Gale Kramer. Bring a bag lunch, if you wish. *12:15–12:45 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Lounge, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Reconstructing the Nation and Debating Armenian-Turkish Relations in the Aftermath of WWI": U-M Armenian Studies Program.** Talk by Vahe Tachjian, chief editor of the Houshamadyan Book Project, a Berlin-based effort to reconstruct the Ottoman Armenians' local history and the memory of their lives. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763–0622.*

★**"Confessions of a Dinosaur in the Age of New Media": U-M Physics Department Annual Ta-You Wu Lecture.** Lecture by *New York Times* science writer **Dennis Overbye.** *4:15 p.m., Business School Blau Auditorium, 701 Tappan. Free. 763–2588.*

★**"Dear Edward: Family Footprints": U-M Author's Forum Series.** Prominent South African photographer **Paul Weinberg** and U-M art history and philosophy professor Daniel Herwitz discuss Weinberg's new book that retraces his family's footprints to far-flung small towns in the interior of South Africa, where his ancestors found a niche in the hotel trade. *5:30–7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 615–5783.*

★**"Establishing a Rain Garden: Clean Up the Huron River, One Garden at a Time": Ann Arbor Wild Ones.** Talk by Washtenaw County Resources Commissioner's Office rain garden coordinator Susan Bryan. *6:45–8:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 994–0833.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**"Naturalization: A Step to Citizenship": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Michigan Immigrant Rights Center attorney Ruby Robinson. Q&A. *7–8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"City of Ann Arbor 2014 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Healthy Ecosystems": Ann Arbor District Library.** The 2nd in a series of 4 monthly forums with city staff and other panelists TBA features discussion of the local urban and community forest, sustainable landscaping, yard design, and storm water management at home. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"The Wonders of Florence": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Dave and Marty Wilson discuss their recent trip to Italy. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck. *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 769–1052.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Retired local social worker Myrna Lueck leads a discussion of ***Dear Senator,*** Essie Mae Washington-Williams' memoir about being the half-black daughter of the late segregationist senator Strom Thurmond. *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

★**U-M Concert Band: U-M School of Music.** Mark Norman and Andrea Brown conduct this music student ensemble in Frank Ticheli's *Postcard,* a work commissioned by former Concert Band director Robert Reynolds in memory of his whimsical and vibrant mother, Ethel. The program also includes Syler's *The Hound of Heaven,* McAllister's cathartic *Gone,* Hummel's Octet Partita in E-flat major, and Karel Husa's *Music for Prague 1968. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"Forward to the Past": Orlando Consort (Academy of Early Music). This acclaimed British vocal quartet performs works by 14th-century poet and composer Guillaume de Machaut and 15th-century composers Dunstaple, Dufay, Ockeghem, Gombert, and Josquin des Prez. Their new CD of de Machaut songs was included in the *New York Times* 2013 list of favorite classical recordings. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $30 & $40 (students, $10) in advance at AcademyOfEarlyMusic.org, Nicola's Books (2513 Jackson), & by phone, and at the door. 478–6421.*

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"The Shape of Things": EMU Theater Department. *Feb. 12–16.* EMU theater professor Terry Heck Seibert directs EMU drama students in Neil LaBute's dark romantic comedy about 2 college students who fall hard for each other when they meet in an art museum—a fast-paced study in infatuation, manipulation, and the porous boundaries of art and reality. Recommended for mature audiences. *9 p.m. (Wed.), 7 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), EMU Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (students, $7) in advance and at the door. 487–2282.*

13 THURSDAY

"Under the African Sky": Wild Swan Theater. See 12 Wednesday. *Note:* Today's shows are sold out. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★**International Neighbors.** All area women invited to learn how to use colorful paper to make gift boxes, flowers, toys, animals, and other crafts. Refreshments. The club's meetings are aimed at women from other countries living in Ann Arbor and local women interested in other cultures. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995–1645.*

★**"Poverty in Southeast Michigan": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Panel discussion with U-M social work professor Sandra Danziger, U-M public policy researcher Kristin Seefeldt, and U-M sociology professor Sarah Burgard. *3:30–5 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–9537.*

★**Marianne Boruch: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Poetry reading by this respected American poet, a writing professor at Purdue University, who has published eight collections of poetry, including *The Book of Hours,* winner of the prestigious 2013 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. The collection's poems are noted for their rich detailing of nature's ruthless beauty and sharp ruminations on war, history, saints, godlessness, and the nature of poetry itself. *5:10 p.m., UMMA auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330, mslevad@umich.edu*

★**"Open Mike & Share": Bookbound.** Area minister and poet **Deborah Mitchell** reads from her upbeat inspirational poetry. Signing. The program begins with an open mike for poets. *6 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

"Hop Heads": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about some 2 dozen "hop bombs"—beers with an unusually heavy hop content. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance, $30 at the door. 213–1393.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"The Shape of Things": EMU Theater Department. See 12 Wednesday. 7 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"An Evening of Hindustani Classical Music": U-M Center for World Performance Studies.** Performance by the duo of Rabindra Bharati University (Kolkata) instrumental music professor **Pandit Sanjoy Bandopadhyay,** a world-renowned sitar player known for his exceptional spontaneity, and **Pandit Samir Chatterjee,** an All India Radio tabla player. Also, on Feb. 14 Bandopadhyay gives a talk on **"Improvisation on the Sitar: Traditional Knowledge and Free Expression"** (5–6:30 p.m., 506 Burton Tower). *7:30–9:30 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 936–2777.*

★**Faculty Showcase: U-M School of Music.** Program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**EMU Wind Symphony: EMU Music Department.** Mary Schneider directs this music student ensemble in a program TBA. *8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Tina Giorgi: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Feb. 13–15.* A former schoolteacher, this NYC comic is known for her rapid-fire, sharp-witted observational humor directed at the state of American culture. "Achieving what often eludes many less adept comediennes, her set was wickedly sarcastic and edgy without coming across as negative, angry, or just plain mean," says the *Long Island Voice.* Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $12 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

14 FRIDAY

★**"Fathoming Consciousness: Meaning and Measurement": U-M Center for the Study of Complex Systems/U-M Branch of the Institute for Complex Adaptive Matter.** A daylong series of talks by U-M and visiting scholars in different fields, including neuroscience professor George Mashour on **"Consciousness and the Dying Brain,"** Asian languages & cultures professor Donald Lopez on **"Buddhist Views of Consciousness,"** University of California–San Diego philosophy professor Paul Churchland on **"The Diverse Accounts of Consciousness Now Available, and a Possible Way to Get Past Them,"** U-M psychology professor John Holland **on "Levels of Consciousness,"** and MSU microbiology and molecular genetics professor Chris Adami on **"An Evolutionary Approach to Artificial Consciousness."** Exact schedule available at lsa.umich.edu/cscs. Coffee & snacks. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Rackham Bldg. Free. 763–3301.*

★**"Pataphysical Explorations to Disrupt Reality in the Most Unproductive Ways": UMMA.** Experimental poet **Christian Bök,** U-M art historian **David Doris,** and U-M music professor **Stephen Rush** discuss Pataphysics, the philosophical foundation of Dadaism and Surrealism that calls for playfully placing everyday objects into odd contexts. *3:30–5 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"Improvisation on the Sitar: Traditional Knowledge and Free Expression": U-M School of Music.** Lecture by Rabindra Bharati University (India) instrumental music chair Pandit Sanjoy Bandopadhyay. *5 p.m., 506 Burton Tower. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Valentine's Day Chocolate & Bourbon Cocktail Hour": Zingerman's Delicatessen.** All invited to sample a selection of fine bourbons paired with chocolate confections made by Chocolat Moderne (NYC) chocolatier and CEO Joan Coukos. *6–7 p.m., Zingerman's Events on Fourth, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $45. 663–3400.*

★**"Kids Night In": U-M Natural History Museum.** Parents invited to drop off their kids ages 5–12 for a **Kids Design Challenge.** Participants see how high they can make a rocket fly, try to make the sturdiest paper tower, take the egg drop challenge, and more. Pizza provided, 6–7 p.m. Kids can bring PJs & a pillow, if they wish. *6–10 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $35 (members, $30). Sibling discounts available. Preregistration required by Feb. 12 at ummnh.org. 615–7116.*

Team USA Under–17 vs. Chicago. The younger of the 2 Ann Arbor–based USA Hockey national team development teams plays this U.S. Hockey League rival. Team USA Under 17 also has a USHL match this month against **Indiana** (Feb. 16, 3:30 p.m.). *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $7 (seniors, students, active military, & kids, $5; youth hockey players with jerseys, $1). 327–9251.*

"The Shape of Things": EMU Theater Department. See 12 Wednesday. 7 p.m.

★**"Three by Tenn": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** *Feb. 14 & 15 (different programs).* U-M drama students in Kate Mendeloff's play production seminar direct and perform 6 short plays—3 each night—by Tennessee Williams. Plays include *Talk to Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen, This Property is Condemned, The One Exception, A Perfect Analysis Given by a Parrot, Summer by the Lake,* and *The Pink Bedroom.* Nightly schedule TBA. *7:30 p.m., Keene Theatre, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4354.*

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Mark Hillegonds, Robert Messer, and others call to live music by Susie Lorand, Josh Burdick, and Steve Schneider. For experienced dancers. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531*

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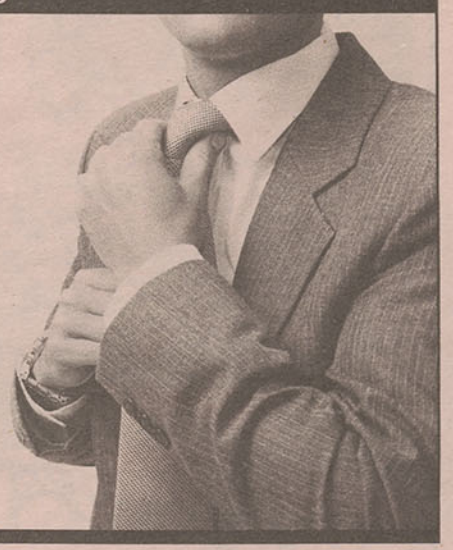

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Washtenaw Community College

Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. (248) 288–4737.

St. Lawrence String Quartet: University Musical Society. Founded in 1989, this acclaimed Canadian chamber ensemble, now based at Stanford University, performs with "an almost disturbing intensity," according to a *New York Times* reviewer. Tonight's program includes Haydn's popular and lively Quartet in D major, Martinu's Quartet No. 5, and Dvorak's Quartet in C major. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $22–$46 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Compagnie Kafig: University Musical Society. *Feb. 14 & 15.* French choreographer Mourad Merzouki directs this much-lauded hip-hop troupe, founded in 1996, of eleven virtuosic and spirited male street performers from Rio de Janeiro's shantytowns. Tonight they perform ***Correria*** and ***Agwa.*** *Correria* (2010)—the Portuguese word for *running*—whose choreography focuses on movement of the legs and fluidly switches between several styles of dance—includes breaking, popping, locking, and waacking (street-influenced arm dancing)—Capoeira, and acrobatic movement. *Agwa* (2008) features 300 water-filled plastic cups that the dancers skillfully crawl, flip, and slide between. The poetic, elegant choreography is set to hip-hop, bossa nova, and opera music, intensified by raw rhythms created by the dancers slapping the floor. *8 p.m., Power Center. $22–$48, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Tina Giorgi: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

15 SATURDAY

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to hear stories about **owls.** *10–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $2 per person. 997–1533.*

★**Grange Junior Makers: Pittsfield Grange.** Kids, accompanied by a participating adult, invited to work on electronics, robotics, and woodworking projects. Today's project TBA. *10 a.m.–noon, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 926–5079.*

★**"Community Forum: For Kinders through Teens, What Self-Directed Learning Can Do for Your Family": Acorn Glen Center for Self-Directed Learning.** All invited to join a discussion about K–12 education and the AGCSDL that is slated to open in September 2015. Kids welcome. Refreshments. *10 a.m.–noon, Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool, 1547 Miller. Free. 585–5555.*

★**Death Café.** All invited to join a casual conversation about death led by local home funeral educator Merilynne Rush. *10 a.m.–noon, Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395–9660.*

27th Annual Winter Fleece Fair: Spinner's Flock. A huge array of Michigan-grown fibers for spinning and felting and handspun yarns. Also, supplies for spinning, weaving, knitting, and felting. Members offer demos throughout the day. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Beach Middle School, 445 Mayer, Chelsea. Free admission. spinnersflock.com, 475–7922, 769–1657.*

44th Annual Train Show and Sale: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. *Feb. 15 & 16.* The Midwest's largest model railroad flea market draws model railroaders, collectors, and train buffs from all over to display, trade, and sell model railroad equipment and memorabilia. Also, displays of model train operating layouts, clinics by model railroad club members, and a raffle. Concessions. *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Feb. 15) & 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (Feb. 16), Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. $6 (scouts in uniform and kids age 9 & under with adult, free). 426–0829.*

★**"Family Storytelling": Ann Arbor District Library.** Nationally renowned storyteller **Donna Washington** (see 8 p.m. Ark Storytelling Festival listing below) presents an interactive introduction to creating a family storytelling tradition for families with kids age 5 & up. *10–11:30 a.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Sock Snow Person": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to turn a sock into a snow person doll. *1–2 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

"Jamie and Jordan": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Royal Oak playwright Kim Carney's hilarious musical about the importance of both a healthy lifestyle and a healthy friendship. Milk & cookies. For prekindergartners through 5th graders. *1 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth under age 16, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the*

jazz

Joshua Breakstone

The art of the cool guitar

The electric guitar is probably the most common instrument in popular music in our time. But until the invention eighty or so years ago of the amplified version of the instrument guitarists worked mainly in the rhythm sections of orchestras, often felt more than heard. The trombonist and guitarist Eddy Durham is usually credited with inspiring other musicians to take up the amplified version of the instrument; it let jazz players, most prominently Charlie Christian, match the solo volume of trumpets and saxophones and blues players such as T-Bone Walker wail in loud bars. The fame of the Nat King Cole trio, which featured the guitar of Oscar Moore but no drums, was important in popularizing the instrument.

Blues and rock players exploited the various tonal and volume possibilities that amplifiers provide, but traditional jazz players such as Grant Green, for the most part, preferred clean and undistorted sounds, focusing on playing single-line solos that correspond to what a horn player might do; others, such as Barney Kessel or Joe Pass, blended melodic and chordal approaches.

In the sixties jazz players turned to rock for inspiration, and some guitarists adapted the more distorted rock sound to jazz playing, but others stuck to the cleaner, more conservative approach. Joshua Breakstone is one such traditionalist.

By his own admission, Breakstone was initially inspired more by the harmonically and rhythmically sophisticated trumpet improvisations of Lee Morgan and Clifford Brown than by fellow guitarists. He studied with the magnificent, unjustly forgotten Sal Salvador, a highly original guitarist, author, and teacher, then studied music in college. Listening to Breakstone today, you can hear just how much he learned from Salvador: the clean attack, the slight singsong vibrato, and the harmonic clarity of the improvisations all owe something to the older master.

By the time Breakstone made his first record as a band leader in 1983, he had established himself as a versatile musician who had mastered his craft. Over the last three decades he has continued to tour and record, primarily as the leader of quartets or trios, throughout the U.S. but also in Europe and Japan.

Breakstone is definitely a modern jazz traditionalist. He has played and recorded with older masters, including the classic Detroit pianists Barry Harris (one of his early teachers) and Tommy Flanagan, and has recorded tributes to great pianists and guitarists of the past. In his early years Breakstone was an extroverted player, as witnessed by his hard-edged attack on his 1986 record *Echoes,* which featured the mighty baritone sax of the great Detroiter Pepper Adams. Over time his approach mellowed, and he has sought a more nuanced slant on music. He has always been a thoughtful player and composer and in recent years has showed a preference for playing in a sparse environment, with only bass and drums. While he can play cleanly at any tempo, he very much likes slower, introspective songs to play. Just recently he has recorded a new album, adding cellist Mike Richmond to his regular trio. They will play at the Kerrytown Concert House February 16.

—Piotr Michalowski

door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.

★"The Snake That Ate the Dinosaur": U-M Natural History Museum William R. Farrand Public Lecture. U-M paleontologist Jeffrey Wilson and his colleague, Geological Survey of India paleontology director Dhanajay Mohabey, discuss their discovery of a fossil of a snake about to devour a baby dinosaur hatchling. In conjunction with the new *Snake vs. Dinosaur* exhibit which opens on Feb. 16 (see listing). *4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764–0478.*

★Piano Exchange Concert: U-M School of Music. Performances by Cincinnati Conservatory of Music piano students. *5 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Great Lakes Region Quarterfinals: International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella. Five U-M *a cappella* ensembles—**Dicks & Janes, the G-Men, Amazin' Blue, Maize Mirchi,** and the **Harmonettes**—and 3 other Midwest college *a cappella* ensembles compete for the chance to move on to the semifinals in March. *7 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets TBA at varsityvocals.com.*

"The Shape of Things": EMU Theater Department. See 12 Wednesday. 7 p.m.

"27th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. *Feb. 15 & 16 (different programs).* Performances for adults (Feb.15) & families (Feb. 16) by top-notch storytellers from around the country and the state. Headliners are **Donna Washington,** a renowned specialist in African and African American myths and stories as well as folktales from around the world, and Choctaw Storytelling Festival founder **Tim Tingle,** who often accompanies his tribal stories and songs on Native American flute or whaleskin drum. Opening act is Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild member **Jane Fink.** *7:30 p.m. (Sat.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 (Feb. 15) & $10 (Feb. 16 family concert) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & the arg.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Three by Tenn": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. See 14 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Grange. Robin Warner and Martha vander Kolk call to live music by Oh! Contraire. No partner needed. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a beginner lesson. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $10 (members, $7). 426–0241.*

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of socializing and dancing to recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by a DJ. Cash bar. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass, or pay $5). *8 p.m.–midnight, Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 973–1933. 994–0587, 214–6449.*

"Milonga Picante": U-M Argentine Tango Club. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan League Vandenburg Room. $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~umtango.*

★Gamelan Concert: U-M School of Music. Well-known Javanese musician and puppeteer **Midiyanto** directs the U-M Gamelan ensemble in a work by Lou Harrison, the great 20th-century composer who pioneered the development of an American gamelan musical tradition. Also, two dance works by performers TBA. The gamelan is an assembly of 50 gongs and metallophones, drums, strings, flutes, xylophone, and singers. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★"Black Ten": U-M School of Music. University of South Florida piano professor **Svetozar Ivanov** performs a multimedia solo concert of works inspired by Julio Cortazar's poem "Negro el Diez." *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"The Love Hangover": Mangiamo Italian Grill Acoustic Routes Concert. Love song covers and originals by area duos, including the acclaimed Dearborn-based duo **Jo Serrapere & John Devine, Dustin & Sarah Lolli** of Tecumseh as "James & June," and others TBA. A popular annual multi-city tradition that began in 2000 in Raleigh (NC). *8 p.m., Mangiamo, 107 W. Michigan Ave, Saline. $15 by reservation and at the door. Preferred seating for dinner customers. 429–0060.*

Compagnie Kafig: University Musical Society. See 14 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Tina Giorgi: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

16 SUNDAY

★"Snake vs. Dinosaur: Caught in the Act": U-M Natural History Museum. A family-oriented program of fun-filled educational activities celebrating the opening of this exhibit about a fossil, recently discovered in western India, of the large prehistoric snake sanajeh indicus as it was about to devour a baby dinosaur hatchling 67 million years ago. The exhibit features a spectacular sculptural recreation of the scene by Chicago-area paleo-artist Tyler Keillor. The museum also presents a lecture on the fossil and its discovery on Feb. 15 (see listing). *Noon–5 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library. Everyone from kindergartners to adults invited to play chess. Chess sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★Juniper Ridge Ski/Hike: Huron Valley Sierra Club. Guest hike leader Barry Lonik leads a ski or hike (depending on trail conditions) on a 2.5-mile loop through mature deciduous woods and wetlands on the Juniper Ridge Trail in the Pinckney State Recreation Area. Geared toward intermediate-level skiers. *1 p.m., meet at Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson Rd.) to carpool. Free. 677–0823.*

★U-M Euphonium and Tuba Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Euphonium and tuba majors, under the direction of Fritz Kaenzig, are joined by the Youth Euphonium/Tuba Ensemble in chamber and large ensemble works. *1 p.m. U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

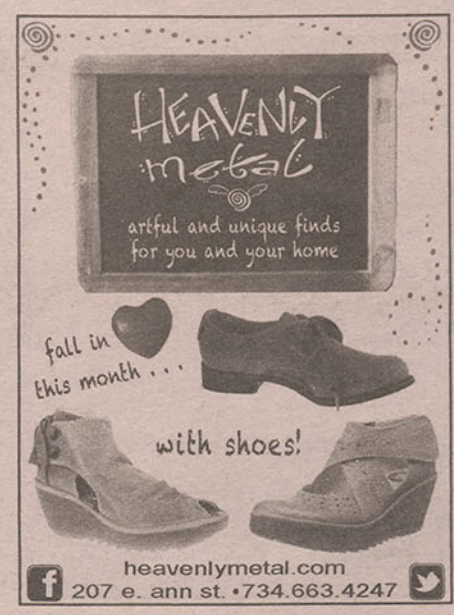
"27th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 15 Saturday. Today's program is a **family show.** 1 p.m.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for contra and square dancing with live music. Grange-baked cookies. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $12 per family. 769–1052.*

"5th Annual Chili Cook-Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Fundraiser. Tastings of 10 chilis and 5 beers. Live auction & raffle. *2–5 p.m., Wolverine State Brewing Company, 2019 W. Stadium. Tickets for chili only: $10 (kids ages 5–10, $5; kids age 4 & under, free) in advance or at the door. Tickets for beer & chili: $20. 971–2228.*

★"Doris Duke's Shangri La: Architecture, Landscape, and Islamic Art": UMMA. Docent-guided tour of the current exhibit of ceramics, textiles, paintings, tile panels, architectural elements, photographs, and drawings by Islamic artists from tobacco heiress Duke's extensive collection. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Growing Miniature Orchids on Mounts": Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Little Frog Farm (Stock-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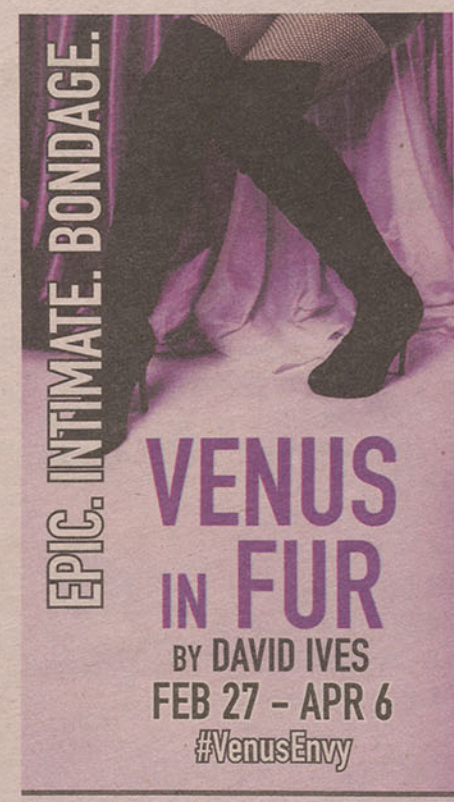

"Ninety minutes of good, kinky fun..." — NY Times. Thomas, a beleaguered playwright/director, is desperate to find an actress to play Vanda, the female lead in his adaptation of the classic sadomasochist tale *Venus in Fur.* Into the audition room walks a vulgar and distraught actress—oddly enough, named Vanda. Though utterly wrong for the part, Vanda exhibits a strange command of the material. As the two work through the script, the lines between play and reality blur, entering into an increasingly serious battle of submission and domination that only one of them can win.

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films

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327–4555. AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave.

Feb. 13: **"The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela"** (Cliff Bestall, 1999). Acclaimed PBS documentary. 6–8:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Senior Center. FREE. 794–6250. 1320 Baldwin.

Every Mon.: **"Movie Matinee."** Films TBA. 12:30–3 p.m.

Center of Light "Conscious Movie Night." FREE. 330–5048. Center of Light, 200 Huronview Blvd. (off N. Main), 8 p.m.

Feb. 28: **"The Economics of Happiness"** (Steven Gorelick, Helena Norberg-Hodge, & John Page; 2011). Documentary about grass-roots efforts to deregulate trade and finance and create smaller local economies.

Inspire-Healing Film Festival. Donation. 531–9570. Aprill Welness Center (107 Aprill Dr.), 7 p.m.

Feb. 28: **"The Sacred Science"** (Nicholas J. Polizzi, 2011). Documentary about 8 ill people who journey to the Amazon jungle in search of alternatives to modern medicine.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Feb. 15: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Feb. 28: **"Travelers and Magicians"** (Khyentse Norbu, 2003). A young government official who dreams of escaping his isolated village life hikes to town—in the company of a Buddhist monk, a drunk, and a widower and his daughter—in pursuit of a visa to the U.S. Bhutanese Dzongkha, subitles. Discussion follows.

Jewish Community Center "Falafel and Film." Film screening with a falafel dinner. $15 (members, $10). Reservations required. 971–0990. JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard), 7 p.m.

Feb. 8: **"The Gatekeepers"** (Dror Moreh, 2012). Documentary about the Israeli internal security service Shin Bet, told from the perspective of 6 of its former leaders. Followed by discussion led by Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor executive director David Shtulman.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; films before 6 p.m., $7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Opens Jan. 31: **"Oscar-Nominated Short Films."** Short films by various directors in 3 categories: live action, animation, and documentary.

Feb. 2: **"The Muppet Movie"** (James Frawley, 1979). Heartwarming road movie mockumentary about the way the Muppets first met is highlighted by a steamy yet discreet love scene between Kermit and Miss Piggy. Kids 12 & under, free. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 2: **"The Pleasure Garden"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1926). Silent drama about a chorus girl engaged to an adventurer who begins to play around when her fiancé travels out of the country. 2 p.m.

Feb. 4: **"Murder!"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1930). A man convinced of the innocence of a woman he helped convict for murder sets out to find the real killer. Herbert Marshall, Norah Baring. 7 p.m.

Feb. 9: **"The 39 Steps"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1935). Vintage mystery-romantic comedy about an innocent man pulled into the orbit of a spy ring. Robert Donat, Madeleine Carroll. 4 p.m.

Feb. 11: **"The Man Who Knew Too Much"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1934). Hitchcock's original version of the thriller about criminals who kidnap a child to prevent her parents from revealing an assassination plot. Leslie Banks, Edna Best, Peter Lorre. 5 p.m.

Feb. 11: **"The Man Who Knew Too Much"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1956). Remake of the 1934 thriller. James Stewart, Doris Day. 7 p.m.

Feb. 12: **"Sunshine"** (Danny Boyle, 2007). Sci-fi thriller about a group of 8 astronauts who try to reach a dying sun to reignite the fire needed to save life on Earth. Followed by a talk by U-M atmospheric, oceanic, and space sciences professor Justin Kasper on extreme environments, from the surface of the sun to the outer edges of the solar system, and the impact of space weather on society. 7 p.m.

Feb. 12, 13, & 15: **"The Tightrope"** (Simon Brook, 2012). Documentary, filmed with hidden cameras, about veteran theater director Peter Brook.

Opens Feb. 14: **"The Great Beauty"** (Paolo Sorrentino, 2013). Comic drama about a 65-year-old literary playboy who starts to question his life of parties and nightclubs. Italian, subtitles.

Feb. 14: **"Funny Girl"** (William Wyler, 1968). Barbra Streisand stars in her Oscar-winning film debut as Fanny Brice, the rags-to-riches 1920s comedienne with a tragic private life. Omar Sharif. Adaptation of the Bob Merrill–Jule Styne musical. 7 p.m.

Feb. 14: **"Trapped in the Closet"** (R. Kelly & Jim Swaffield, 2012). Sing-along version of R. Kelly's rap opera about a one-night stand that sets off a chain of events. This elaborately interactive show includes a warm-up dance party, sing-along subtitles, goodie bags, and an encore song. 10:30 p.m.

Feb. 15: **"New World"** (Hoon-jung Park, 2013). Crime thriller about a conflict between the police and the mob, told from the perspective of an undercover cop. FREE, 2 p.m.

Feb. 16: **"The Lodger"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1926). A jealous detective accuses a lodger of murder. Ivor Novello, Malcolm Keen. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 18: **"The Lady Vanishes"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1938). Classic mystery-comedy about an old woman's baffling disappearance on a train that leads a young woman into a web of intrigue. Margaret Lockwood, Michael Redgrave. 7 p.m.

Feb. 20: **"Knights of Badassdom"** (Joe Lynch, 2013). Comedy horror about live-action role players who accidentally summon a demon from the underworld. $10 in advance at tugg.com/events/7341 and at the door. The screening takes place only if enough advance tickets are sold by Feb. 10 9:30 p.m.

Opens Feb. 21: **"The Past"** (Asghar Farhadi, 2013). An Iranian man deserts his French wife and 2 children to return to his homeland, but comes back to France when his wife asks for a divorce. French & Persian, subtitles.

Feb. 22: **"The Thieves"** (Dong-Hoon Choi, 2012). Crime-action flick about a diamond heist involving a large group of criminals who each wants the stone for himself.

Feb. 23: **"Rebecca"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1940) Gothic thriller about a naive young woman who marries an aristocratic widower. Laurence Olivier, Joan Fontaine, Judith Anderson, George Sanders. 4 p.m.

Feb. 25: **"Foreign Correspondent"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1940) Thriller about an American reporter who exposes enemy spies in Britain. Joel McCrea, Laraine Day, Herbert Marshall, George Sanders. 7 p.m.

Feb. 28: **"Gloria"** (Sebastián Lelio, 2013). Comic drama set in Santiago about a free-spirited older woman who has a whirlwind relationship with a former naval officer. Spanish & English, subtitles.

Feb. 28: **"Fly Fishing Film Tour"** An anthology of cutting-edge films aimed at both entertaining and educating outdoor enthusiasts. $15; discounted tickets available at Schultz Outfitters (4 E. Cross, Ypsilanti). 7 p.m.

State Theater Midnight Movies. For complete, updated schedule, see michtheater.org or call 761–8667. Tickets $7. Midnight.

Feb. 1: **"Escape from New York"** (John Carpenter, 1981). Sci-fi thriller, set in a futuristic Manhattan that has been converted into a maximum-security prison, where the president is being held captive after the crash of Air Force One. Kurt Russell, Lee Van Cleef, Harry Dean Stanton, Adrienne Barbeau.

Feb. 15: **"Romeo + Juliet"** (Baz Luhrmann, 1996). Updated adaptation of Shakespeare's romantic tragedy set in a fictional Verona Beach amidst warring business empires. Leonard DiCaprio, Claire Danes.

U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies "Yiddish Movie Night." FREE. 763–9047. 2022 Thayer Bldg. (202 S. Thayer), 6 p.m.

Feb. 25: **"Laughter Through Tears"** (Grigore Gritcher, 1933). Soviet film about prerevolutionary shtetl life, based on Sholem Aleichem's play *Motl Peysi* about a boy whose father dies and leaves him to survive on his own. Yiddish, subtitles.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763–3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m.

Feb. 11: **"Wild Zero"** (Tetsuro Takeuchi, 1999). B-movie sci-fi thriller featuring the legendary Japanese garage rock power trio Guitar Wolf as the only thing that stands in the way of a race of aliens bent on destroying the Earth with an army of zombies.

bridge) owner Rob Halgren shows how to mount orchids on windowsills or under artificial lights. Attendees get two plants to take home. Also, a sale of orchids and supplies, a member show and tell, and a raffle. *2–5 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Cost TBA; preregistration required by email. Metered parking. 647–7600, annarbororchids@aol.com.*

★"Kodu with Kito": Ann Arbor District Library. Local educator Kito presents a hands-on introduction for kids in grades 2–5 to Kodu, a computer programming language designed for creating games. *2–4 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 12 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"The Shape of Things": EMU Theater Department. See 12 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"County Line": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★"Built in Detroit: A Story of the UAW, a Company, and a Gangster": Nicola's Books. Local writer **Bob Morris** discusses his new book about the UAW in Detroit in the 30s and 40s and his father, Ken Morris, a door-to-door salesman who eventually became president of the UAW. Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in Mendelssohn's Symphony no. 3, Brahms' Hungarian Dance no. 5, and Vaughan Williams' *Rosemedre.* The YSO is joined by the **Boychoir of Ann Arbor** for performances of Christopher's Tin's "Baba Yetu," a setting of a Swahili translation of the Lord's Prayer, and John Rutter's setting of the hymn "For the beauty of the earth." The Boychoir also performs a short set on its own. *3:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $12 (seniors & kids under age 12, $6; family of up to 2 adults & 2 kids under age 12, $30) in advance at ypsilantisymphony.org and at the door. 507–1451.*

Valentine's Tea & Chocolate Pairing: TeaHaus. TeaHaus staffers lead tastings of teas and Mindo (Dexter) chocolates. *4 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. $28 ($50 per twosome). Reservations required. 622–0460.*

★"The Great Sugar Scandal of 1888": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. Milan writer and attorney Martha Churchill discusses an international sugar stock scam with conspirators who had connections to Milan. *4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

★EMU Symphonic Band and Concert Band: EMU Music Department. Amy Knopps directs these music student ensembles in a program TBA. *4 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Joshua Bell: University Musical Society. A superstar American violinist known for his bright tone, forthright phrasing, and charismatic stage presence, Bell is "the greatest American violinist active today," writes a *Boston Herald* critic. This Grammy-winning virtuoso soloist made his debut at age 14 with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and, in the three decades since, has performed with many international orchestras and currently serves as director of the acclaimed British chamber orchestra Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. Today he is joined by respected British pianist **Sam Haywood** in Tartini's Violin Sonata in G minor, Beethoven's Violin Sonata No. 10 in G major, Stravinsky's *Divertimento for Violin and Piano,* and other works TBA. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $16–$80, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Joshua Breakstone: Kerrytown Concert House. *See review, p. 65.* This renowned bop-based jazz guitarist and New Jersey native is known for his elegant and inventive single-note melodies and swinging, communicative phrasing. "His flowing lines on up-tempo cookers are impeccably clean and fiery, bearing the mark of a first-rate improviser, while his chordal work on heartbreaker ballads is the final word in finesse," writes a *Guitar Player Magazine* reviewer. Tonight he celebrates the release of his 20th album as a bandleader, *With the Wind and the Rain,* noted for its deconstructed bebop and organic swing. With bassist Marion Hayden and drummer Sean Dobbins. *4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★Shannon Scott & Leonard Garrison: U-M School of Music. Washington State University clarinet professor Scott and University of Idaho flute professor Garrison perform duets. *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen*

Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.

★**"Michael Daugherty: The Labyrinth of Love": U-M School of Music.** Elim Chan conducts a large chamber ensemble and soprano **Jennifer Goltz** in U-M music professor Daugherty's song settings of poems and prose by writers such as Sappho, Anne Carson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and English novelist Elizabeth Taylor. *7 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Woyzeck": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** U-M drama students of Kate Mendeloff direct and perform early 19th-century German playwright Georg Buechner's unfinished episodic tragedy about a poverty-stricken barber driven insane by the apparently irremediable injustice of the world. *7 p.m., Keene Theatre, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4354.*

17 MONDAY

School Break Activities: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. *Feb. 17–21.* All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited for various nature-based activities. *Feb. 17:* **"Self-Guided Adventure Day."** Story-based indoor activities. Outdoor adventure backpacks available. *Feb. 18:* **"Plant Tales,"** with storytelling inspired by plants from around the world. Followed by a chance to make an illustrated storybook to take home. *Feb. 19:* **"Eco-Kids,"** a chance to learn about ways to reduce one's environmental impact through crafts. *Feb. 20:* **"Tree Tales"** includes stories about trees and a chance to make an illustration of a favorite tree at Matthaei. *Feb. 21:* **"Flavor-Filled Friday,"** a chance to learn about plants from around the world. Fruit and spice tastings. *10 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free (Feb. 17) & $5 (Feb. 18–21). Metered parking. 647–7600.*

★**"Art on the Line: Cartography & Creativity in a Divided World": U-M Library.** Talk by Duke University history professor Sumathi Rumaswami. In conjunction with the current U-M Clark Library exhibit, *Maps and Map-Making in India. 4–5:30 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 647–0646.*

★**"Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Panel discussion with U-M scholars, including women's studies professors Elizabeth A. Armstrong and Elizabeth Cole, undergraduate education dean Phil DeLoria, and education professor Michael Bastedo. *4–6 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *6:45–9 p.m., Pittsfield Condominium Community Bldg., 2220 Pittsfield Blvd. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues for those who join). 994–4385.*

★**"Eggshell Mosaic Pendants": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local crafter Dawn Henry shows adults and kids in grade 6 & up how to make a necklace pendant using cracked eggshells. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Eric Shonkwiler: Literati Bookstore.** This Ohio-born writer reads from ***Above All Men,*** his new novel set in a dystopian American future about a war veteran fighting to keep his family and farm together who is forced to go on a hunt through crumbling towns to find the murderer of a local child. "Shonkwiler has taken an iconic landscape and filtered it through near-collapse and fear, then through loyalty and love," says writer Susan Straight. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Stamp Papers (No Rocks or Scissors)": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** Talk by stamp collector and exhibitor Gene Stutzenstein. Also, a mini stamp auction. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

★**"The Art of the Approach": Ann Arbor Women Artists.** Ann Arbor Art Center gallery shop director Amy Farnum and exhibitions manager Nathan Rice discuss how art galleries make decisions about what artwork to accept. *7:30 p.m., Jackson Square Plaza Facility, 4844 Jackson Rd., suite 100. Free. 996–2551.*

★**Jazz Ensemble: EMU Music Department.** Donald Babcock directs this music student ensemble in a program TBA. *7:30 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood (off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**"Poets & Patriots: A Tuneful History of 'The Star Spangled Banner'": U-M School of Music.** U-M musicology professor Mark Clague, voice professor Scott Piper, pianist Jeannette Fang, and voice students Nick Davis and Leanne Scheuring present a musical history of the national anthem. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

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RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL OF ANN ARBOR

18 TUESDAY

★**"Lives of the Great Languages: Cosmopolitan Languages in the Pre-Modern Mediterranean": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Talk by U-M Italian professor Karla Mallette. *12:30–2 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 1022. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Magician Jeff Wawrzaszek: Ann Arbor District Library.** Performance by this popular, award-winning magician. For kids in grades preK–5. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., & 7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Breast Cancer: What's New in Treatment & Research?": American Association of University Women.** Talk by U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center nurse Tamara Ghormley. Preceded at 2 p.m. by socializing. *2:30 p.m., Cleary University, 3601 Plymouth. Free. 973–6287.*

★**"Erosion of Rights in Russia: A Lawyer's Perspective": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies.** Talk by Committee for Russian Economic Freedom chair Pavel Ivlev. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"The Ambiguity of Virtue: Gertrude van Tijn and the Fate of the Dutch Jews During the Holocaust": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** University of Chicago history professor Bernard Wasserstein discusses this Dutch woman who helped many Jews escape Nazi Germany due to her position on a Nazi-appointed Jewish Council in Amsterdam. *4 p.m., 2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Cry of Freedom": Concordia University.** Local multi-instrumentalist **Laszlo Slomovits,** half of the popular duo Gemini, and poet **Linda Nemec Foster** perform a song cycle of Foster's poems that includes rich ballads, quiet elegies, and expressive folk songs. *4 p.m., Concordia University Earhart Manor Ballroom, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–4612.*

★**"From a Full Figured Woman to a Seven Figure Woman: A Woman's Guide to Shifting Her Assets": American Business Women's Association.** Best-selling writer Gail Perry-Mason discusses her book. The program begins with networking and dinner. *6 p.m., Quarter Bistro, 300 S. Maple. Free (buy your own dinner). Reservations requested at abwa-maia.org by Feb. 13. 657–1029.*

★**"Single Varietal Honeys": Zingerman's Delicatessen.** National Honey Board chef Lauren Masterson, who hosts a "Beekeeper's Dinner" at Zingerman's Roadhouse on Feb. 19 (see listing), discusses and offers taste samples of an assortment of honeys made by bees that eat the nectar of only one kind of flower. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Zingerman's Events on Fourth, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $35. 663–3400.*

★**"Make a Memory Book": Ann Arbor District Library.** Arbor Hospice Grief Support Services staff help participants organize photos of a recently lost loved one in a memory book. Bring photos; other materials provided. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Let's Learn Nourishment": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994–4589.*

★**Temple Beth Emeth Spirituality Book Club.** *Feb. 18 & 20 (choose one).* All invited to discuss ***Devotion,*** Dani Shapiro's memoir about her efforts to figure out her own spiritual beliefs. *7–8 p.m. (Feb. 18) & noon–1 p.m. (Feb. 20), TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. cantorannie@gmail.com, 665–4744.*

★**Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Poetry reading by Ann Arbor Wordworks member **Courtney Whittler.** The program begins with open mike readings. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

★**Curbside Splendor Reading: Hobart/Great Lakes, Great Times Reading Series.** Readings by writers from the independent Chicago press Curbside Splendor, including novelist **Tom Williams,** short story writer **Ben Tanzer,** and short story writer **Joseph Bates.** Also, readings by Chicago poet **Daniela Olszewska** and local writer and playwright **Joseph Horton.** *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Harmful Algae Bloom: When Blooms Go Bad": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Great Lakes outreach coordinator Sonia Joseph Joshi. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free; metered parking. 665–0248.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. February theme: **"Happy."** The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. *7:30–9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. $5. 764–5118.*

★**EMU Percussion Ensemble: EMU Music Department.** John Dorsey directs this music-student ensemble in a program of works in an eclectic mix of rhythms and instrumental timbres. *7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Student Woodwind Chamber Music Recital: U-M School of Music.** Small brass and woodwind ensembles perform works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Christopher James Lees conducts this adventurous music student ensemble in works by U-M guest composer-in-residence **Martin Bresnick,** including *My Twentieth Century, ***, BE JUST!,* and other works. The program is in the format of a radio show, with interview-style dialogue with Bresnick about his compositional process and teaching legacy. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

19 WEDNESDAY

"Stories Told in Sunday School": Ann Arbor City Club Lunch & Learn. U-M art and design professor Marianetta Porter discusses the significance of the illustrated hand fans that are hallmarks of black churches. The program begins with lunch. *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. $30 (members, $25). Reservations required by Feb. 14. 662–3279, ext. 1.*

★**"Urban Landscape of Traditional Chinese Painting": U-M Confucius Institute.** Lecture by Renmin University (Beijing) arts professor Hao Chen. *Noon–1 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 764–8888.*

Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All ages invited to join a discussion of a book TBA. *12:30–2 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**"Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, a Revolution": U-M Clements Library.** Best-selling writer **Nathaniel Philbrick** discusses his new book about the Boston battle that ignited the American Revolution. *4 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–3166.*

★**"Armenian Migrant Children in Turkey: Access to Education and States of Exception in a Postgenocidal Society": U-M Armenian Studies Program.** Talk by Sabanci University (Istanbul) anthropology professor Ayse Parla. *4–5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 763–0622.*

★**"Big Shot Paper Crafting": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to see what they can make using the new AADL collection of art tools, which includes several Sizzix Big Shot paper die-cutting machines. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Smell and Tell: Baking with Flavor": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd, creator of the award-winning smell and taste blog Glass Petal Smoke, shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to use food-grade essential oils to make exquisite tea cakes and cookies without a mixer. *6:30–8:45 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Synchro Nationals Exhibition: Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club.** Performances by teams that have qualified to compete at the U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships. *6:35–7:05 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley. Free. 213–6768.*

"A Beekeeper's Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. National Honey Board chef Lauren Masterson hosts a meal featuring recipes from her *The Fresh Honey Cookbook,* with a discussion of the benefits of using and eating honey. Also, tastings of different honey varietals and honeys from different regions. *7–10 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $65 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★**U-M Zell Fellows Reading: Literati Bookstore.** Poetry and fiction readings by 2 U-M Zell fellows, poets **Mary Alice Daniel** and **Jeremiah Childers.** *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss Joël Glenn Brenner's ***The Emperors of Chocolate: Inside the Secret World of Hershey and Mars.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"Natural Wonders of Hawai'i": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by nature photographer and birder Doug Leffler, a retired aero-

kora and more

Habib Koité

The modern griot

In 1983 I saw King Sunny Ade and His African Beats at Soldier Field in Chicago—a whirlwind of melody, rhythm, and motion, watched and heard by tens of thousands of people. African music has never again reached that level of popularity in the United States, but over the last decade fresh sounds have been breaking out across the continent, and someone is going to accomplish it again. The Malian guitarist Habib Koité might be the one. On the strings of his guitar, ancient tones dance with sounds of the modern world.

Koité calls himself the Modern Griot. With his acoustic guitar standing in for the kora, the ancient twenty-one-stringed lute-harp of peoples across Mali and its neighboring countries, he plays instrumental pieces and spins tales in a variety of West African and sometimes European languages. The Ark has hosted some legendary performances of traditional Malian kora music, and Koité is in touch with that art of hypnotic cascading notes. But he is a musician of our time, not of the timeless tradition of kora music.

Sometimes he plays the guitar solo, but most often he appears with a highly energetic band that mixes traditional styles with modern ones—and modern styles with one another. In the past he's taken the stage with percussionists, a xylophonist, and a couple of electric guitarists who can reproduce a variety of West African rhythms and have brought him popularity in many African countries and across Europe. Koité's acoustic guitar, outfitted with heavy strings, cuts through even a big electric sound.

Malian musicians also have an uncanny ability to collaborate with musicians from other parts of the world, and Koité recently recorded an album with American-born blues guitarist Eric Bibb. In the wake of that, Koité has formed a new band that includes a banjo, an originally West African instrument probably related to the kora. The banjo has thus come full circle.

That band appears on Koité's new album, *Soô* (as yet unavailable in the U.S.), and some version of it should be with Koité when he appears at the Ark on February 18. The large and enthusiastic crowd that greeted Mali's highly contemporary and syncretic Amadou & Mariam at the Power Center last summer and totally got into what was happening makes me think that African music's day is coming again, and that Koité's show will be hitting at just the right time.

—James M. Manheim

space worker. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

Theatre des Bouffes du Nord: University Musical Society. *Feb. 19–22.* Legendary British stage and film director Peter Brook directs actors from this experimental French theater company in ***The Suit,*** a devastating and enchanting musical theatre production about infidelity, resentment, and forgiveness. Based on a short story by South African writer Can Themba and adapted for the stage by Mothobi Mutloatse and Barney Simon, the play opens on a seemingly blissful married couple living in an impoverished Johannesburg suburb. After the husband discovers his wife in bed with another man, he uses her lover's abandoned suit to exact a cruel and whimsical revenge upon her. The play's poignancy is accentuated by an elegantly simple and pared-down set and live musical accompaniment from guitar, piano, and trumpet. *The Suit* "brims with a gentle effervescence and musicality," writes a *New York Times* reviewer. "[T]his story of adultery in apartheid South Africa is quietly preparing to break your heart." *7:30 p.m. (Feb. 19 & 20) & 8 p.m. (Feb. 21 & 22), Power Center. $18–$60, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Zappa Plays Zappa: Roxy & Elsewhere 40th Anniversary Tour": Live Nation. Guitarist Dweezil Zappa leads an ensemble of young musicians in a performance of some of the wildly original rock-oriented music—harmonically dense, rhythmically challenging, meticulously arranged, at once raunchy and absurdist—that his father, the late Frank Zappa, composed from the 1960s to the 1980s. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $25–$45 in advance at ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

20 THURSDAY

"Energy, Environment, Water: Managing the Interdependencies for Our Grandchildren and Beyond": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Every Thurs. (except Mar. 6), Feb. 20–Apr. 3.* A series of 6 weekly lectures by various speakers. For full schedule, see annarborobserver.com. *Feb. 20:* MSU fisheries & wildlife professor Geoffrey Habron discusses **"Interdependence and Interrelationships: The Role of Systems Thinking."** *Feb. 27:* Jean Redfield, CEO of Next Energy, a nonprofit devoted to advancing energy investment and job creation in Michigan, discusses **"Our Energy Future: Opportunities and Challenges in Advanced Energy Technologies."** *Mar. 13:* U-M civil and environmental engineering professor Brian Ellis discusses **"Hydraulic Fracturing 101: Clearing the Waters of the Fracking Debate."** *Mar. 20:* U-M School of Natural Resources transportation energy and climate policy professor John Decicco discusses **"The Future of Transportion."** *Mar. 27:* U-M Energy Institute director Mark Barteau discusses **"Perspectives on Energy."** *Apr. 3:* International water resources and environmental services consultant Tim Steele discusses **"Global Water-Resources Issues Versus Energy Choices."** *10–11:30 a.m., Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $50 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members at the door. 998–9351.*

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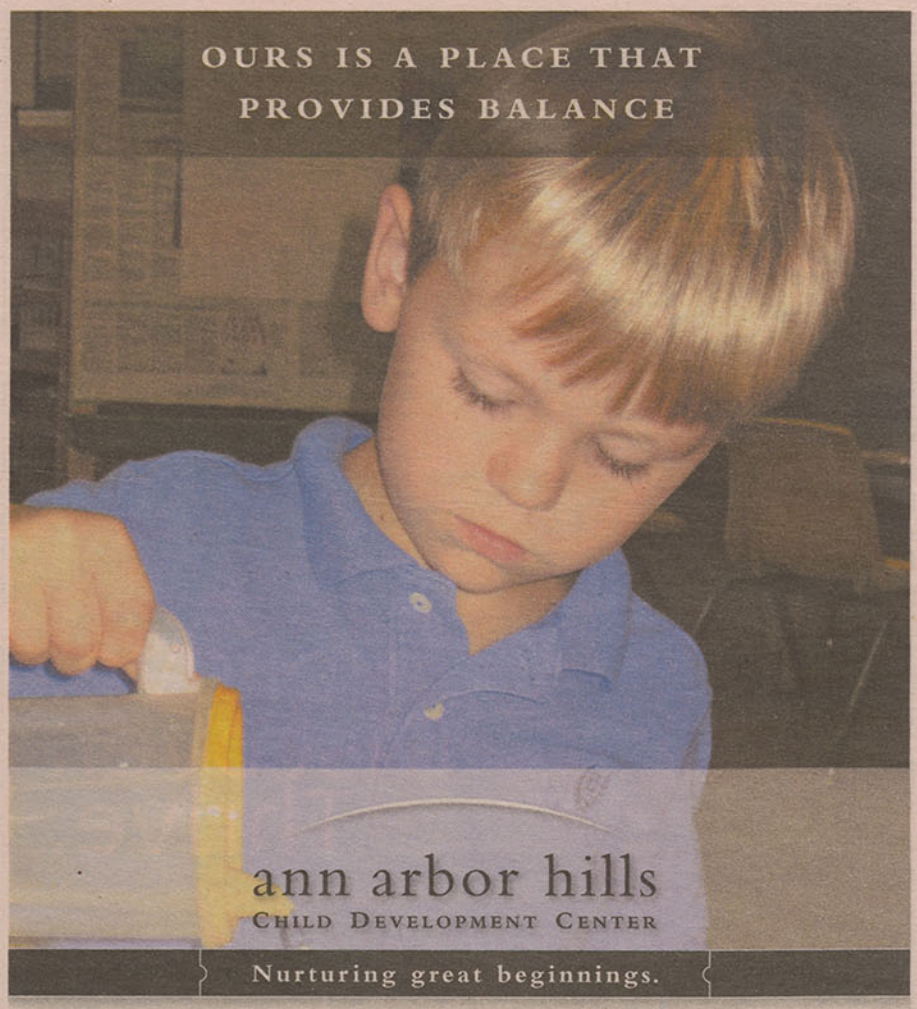

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★**"How Sturdy Are the Indo-Iranian Relations?": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** Lecture by Syracuse University political science professor Mehrzad Boroujerdi. *Noon, Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 647–4143.*

★**"Our Ancestors' Roles in the Civil War": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by Michigan One-Room School House Committee president Ricky Balken. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**"Civilization Gone Awry: Culture, Capitalism, and Conflict in Contemporary Europe": U-M Center for European Studies Conversations on Europe.** Talk by Manhattan Community College political science professor Peter Bratsis. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**"Crystals as Windows on Biology": U-M Life Sciences Institute.** U-M biological chemistry professor Janet Smith discusses her research that uses X-ray crystallography to determine the 3D molecular structures of viruses that cause West Nile disease, yellow fever, and dengue fever, among others. Q&A and refreshments follow. *4 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. umlifesciencesinstitute@umich.edu.*

★**Paisley Rekdal: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** *See review, p. 71.* Poetry reading by this award-winning U-M alumna whose fourth collection, *Animal Eye,* features poems that gaze upon animals, primal scenes, and people, while questioning what it means to be terrestrial and interconnected. *Animal Eye* "presents to readers a linguistic menagerie—a meditative culling of life's earthly minutia of flora and fauna," writes a *Rumpus* reviewer. *5:10 p.m., UMMA auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330, mslevad@umich.edu*

★**Chamber Choir and University Choir: EMU Music Department.** Beth Everett directs these 2 music student ensembles in works by Schütz, Handel, and Britten. *7 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Kerfuffles: Ann Arbor District Library.** This local kids music ensemble presents a program of musical stories, with lots of sing-alongs and dancing. For kids in grades preK–3. *7–7:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Swan Lake": Quality 16. Live broadcast of the **Royal Opera House** production of Tchaikovsky's beloved 1877 tragic ballet about a prince who falls in love with the swan-maiden Odette. Director Anthony Dowell's romantic interpretation uses the choreography of Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov for the Imperial Ballet's 1895 revival of the ballet. *7–10 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets $14 in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623–7469.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**Michigan Archaeological Society.** U-M anthropology professor Robin Beck discusses the excavations he's working on at Fort San Juan in North Carolina. *7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

★**"Days of Fire: Bush and Cheney in the White House": U-M Ford Presidential Library.** *New York Times* chief White House correspondent **Peter Baker** discusses his new book. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205–0555.*

★**"The Things of Music": Washtenaw Community Concert Band.** Chris Heidenreich directs this 80-member volunteer ensemble in a program of works that each highlight a different musical element, from rhythm and expression to melody, timbre, orchestration, and others. Program: Dana Wilson's *Short Cut Home,* Malcolm Arnold's *Four Scottish Dances,* Stephen Bryant's *Dusk,* Richard Kirby's *Different Voices,* Paul Murtha's arrangement of "Glenn Miller in Concert," John Barnes Chance's *Variations on a Korean Folk Song,* Jerry Brubaker's *What's Up at the Symphony?,* and Sousa's "Washington Post." Followed by light refreshments. *7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 252–9221.*

Jennie DeVoe: Music Under the Arch. Performance by this Indianapolis folk-blues singer-songwriter who's been described as "a less commercial Joss Stone combined with Ricki Lee Jones." Snacks & beverages. *7:30 p.m., Stone Arch Arts & Events, 117 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets $20 in advance only at musicunderthearch.com. 787–1428.*

"Romeo & Juliet": U-M Musical Theatre Studio. *Feb. 20–23.* Malcolm Tulip directs U-M musical theater students in Shakespeare's vividly poetic love story, a romantic tragedy about "star-crossed lovers" defying their feuding families. Initially lightheartedly comic, then dire, this perennially popular drama is the heart-wrenching tale of 2 impetuous young lovers destroyed by the intransigence of their families, their own mistakes, and some incredibly bad timing. (Yes, musical theater students: they're working on their acting skills.) *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $17 (students, $10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"Hay Fever": U-M Theatre Department. *Feb. 20–23.* Gillian Eaton directs U-M drama students in Noël Coward's hilarious 1925 comedy of manners about a clash between bohemianism and bourgeois convention. When the offbeat Bliss family invites houseguests to their English countryside home for the weekend, their outlandish self-absorption leaves their hapless guests desperate to escape. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets $22 & $28 (students, $10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

Theatre des Bouffes du Nord: University Musical Society. See 19 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Ben Creed: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Feb. 20–22.* NYC monologist known for his high-energy, dynamic performing style and his quick-witted, wise-guy perspectives on a variety of topics. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $8 (Thurs.) & $11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

21 FRIDAY

"Top Secret Wolverine Classic 2014": Gym America. *Feb. 21–23.* Nearly 1,000 women gymnasts compete in this national-level competition. Complete schedule available at gymamericagymnastics.com. *9 a.m.–9 p.m. (tentative), Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. Admission $11 (seniors & students, $6; kids age 4 & under, free; 2-day pass, $17 for adults & $9 for seniors & students). 971–1667.*

★**"A Brief History, a Few Principles, and Some Suggestions for Developing a Digital Humanities Undergraduate Curriculum": U-M Institute for the Humanities Jill S. Harris Memorial Lecture.** Lecture by University of Texas School of Information professor Tanya Clement. *2 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Fix-It Friday": Maker Works.** All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, and more. Maker Works members are on hand to help fix things. Refreshments. *4–6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. 222–4911.*

★**"The Power of the Miniature: Small Things with Big Consequences": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** San Francisco State University anthropology professor Douglass Bailey discusses the long-lasting effects that Neolithic European figurines had on the way ancient Europeans understood the world around them. *6 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764–9304.*

"Things My Mother Taught Me": Chelsea Area Players. *Feb. 21–23.* Dinner theater performance of Samuel French's romantic comedy about a young couple who are surprised to find their parents showing up to help them move into their first apartment together. *6 p.m. (Feb. 21 & 22) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 23), Chelsea Community Hospital Dining Room, 775 S. Main, Chelsea. Tickets $35 (includes dinner) in advance at Chelsea Pharmacy and by phone. info@chelseaareaplayers.org, 475–8713.*

"Artini 2014 Martini Crawl": Ann Arbor Art Center Fundraiser. All age 21 & over invited to visit several downtown restaurants to taste martinis created for the occasion. This year's theme is Mardi Gras. *7 p.m., begins at the Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. $50 in advance at annarborartcenter.org/content/artini–2013. 994–8004.*

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including poet **Kenzie Allen** and fiction writer **Chigozie Obioma.** *7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

★**Ann Arbor Kirtan.** All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

Ron White: Michigan Theater Foundation. Best known as a member of Jeff Foxworthy's "Blue Collar Comedy Tour," this veteran Texas stand-up comic is known for a point of view that's politically incorrect in both the red and the blue states and for a cigar-chomping, scotch-drinking, flamboyantly disreputable onstage persona that masks a razor-sharp wit and unflappably sweet temper. He has released 3 chart-

poetry

Paisley Rekdal

Something inviolable

Paisley Rekdal has never been afraid of the big themes, the overpowering issues. I remember a Hopwood Award–winning essay she wrote back in the 1990s, when she was in graduate school at U-M—"We do not live here; we are only visitors." It became the opening of her first book, *The Night My Mother Met Bruce Lee,* a collection of personal essays about growing up as the child of a Norwegian father and a Chinese American mother. The essay examined the perceptions of race but started and ended with the completely personal. Its author was obviously a poet.

Since then, she has published four collections of poetry, garnering many awards and a professorship at the University of Utah. But she continues exploring provocative subjects in her poems and finding new ways of approaching those subjects. Her most recent collection, *Animal Eye,* has poems that find their roots in history and others that spring from the personal and familial. She can write an homage to a dead poet or a travel narrative where race becomes the dominant theme. There's often a subdued eroticism that charges the poems, yet they are unified by a meditative tone that allows the poet to move easily from exact observations to the thoughts that rise from them.

But these are first and finally poems. We read them to watch the play of an exceptional imagination, to hear the sounds captured by one practiced ear. Near the end of *Animal Eye,* in the poem "Dragonfly," Rekdal describes a tiny diaphanous dragonfly until she arrives at "wings almost too thin / to be seen but still / must be believed in," and the reader realizes this poet has taken him to a very different place. What had been a description of the mating odonates has become a way to confront some essential questions:

How to solidify
this barely imaginable:
to scrape and name and tear

until something inviolable
can be reached,
one point around which
everything else might fix

itself in opposition, calling it love
each time it happens,
pale yellow silvering
between bay leaves?

The yellow in the bay leaves comes back at the end of the sentence, reconnecting us to the real world that has dragonflies in it, while still allowing for the possibility of that "something inviolable" that we have to work so hard to grasp. Rekdal is able to find it more often than most; what's even better is that her poems can convince us that the scraping and naming and tearing is worth the effort. Rekdal reads her poetry at the U-M Museum of Art on February 20.

—Keith Taylor

topping CDs, *Drunk in Public, You Can't Fix Stupid,* and *Behavioral Problems,* and his new CD, *A Little Unprofessional,* is nominated for a 2014 Grammy. Opening act TBA. *7:30 & 10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $49.75 & $59.75 in advance at ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

Ballroom Dance Party: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Waltz, cha cha, rumba, swing, tango, and other ballroom dancing to recorded music. Bring food or drinks to share, if you wish. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a foxtrot lesson. *8–10 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10 ($15 includes lesson; those with February birthdays, free). 644–1485.*

★Symphony Band Chamber Winds: U-M School of Music. Andrea Brown, John Pasquale, and Dustin Barr conduct this ensemble of U-M Symphony Band members in U-M guest composer-in-residence Martin Bresnick's *Bread and Salt,* Gounod's beautifully melodic *Petite Symphonie,* Henning's minimalist *Out in the Sun,* Webern's Concerto for Nine Instruments, and Joplin's *Maple Leaf Rag* and *The Entertainer.* Bresnick is in attendance. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Feb. 21–23.* A weekend of contra and English dancing to live music, with around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. The highlights of this year's festival include contra dancing with Charlottesville, VA, caller Gaye Fifer to live music by the **Hotpoint String Band,** English country dancing with caller Gene Murrow to live music by **Earl Gaddis & Childgrove,** and **swing/fusion dancing** on Fri., 9 p.m.–midnight. Wear clean shoes for dancing (no dancing in street shoes allowed). Full schedule at aactmad.org/ddw. *8 p.m.–2 a.m. (Feb. 21), 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. & 8 p.m.–2 a.m. (Feb. 22), & 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. (Feb. 23), Clague Middle School, 2616 Nixon Rd. just east of Bluett. $22 (Feb. 21 & 23; age 30 & under, $17; swing/fusion only, $10), $20 (Feb. 22 afternoon; age 30 & under, $15), and $25 (Feb. 22 evening; age 30 & under, $20) at the door. Weekend pass $85 (age 30 & under, $45). 476–4650.*

★EMU Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Kevin Miller conducts this music student orchestra in a program TBA. *8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Peter Mayer: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Earthy, intimate originals by this Minnesota singer-songwriter known for his down-home wisdom on a range of topics from Buddha and Jesus to Isaac Newton and Harley-Davidsons. Mayer also has a warm, resonant baritone and is a fluid, rhythmically supple guitarist. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $17 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

Theatre des Bouffes du Nord: University Musical Society. See 19 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Romeo & Juliet": U-M Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Hay Fever": U-M Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Ben Creed: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

22 SATURDAY

33rd Annual Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival: Ford Seahorse Scuba Dive Club/Detroit Historical Society Dossin Maritime Group. A daylong series of 1-hour presentations on Great Lakes maritime history and shipwrecks, along with diving topics. For a complete schedule, see shipwreckfestival.us. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris*

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Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $25 in advance, $20 at the door. 459–8476.

"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *Every Sat. & Sun., Feb. 22–Mar. 30.* Naturalist Mark Irish discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. *10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $5 (kids, $3). Preregistration required. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. See 21 Friday. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. & 8 p.m.–2 a.m.

★**"South Africa Extravaganza: Plants and Life of South Africa": North American Rock Garden Society.** South African nature guide and environmental educator Louis Jordaan gives presentations on **"South Africa: A Diverse Natural Environment"** (11 a.m.) and **"Nature Pictures That Tell Stories"** (1:30 p.m.). *11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. & 1:30–3 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. reznicek@umich.edu.*

★**"Sap to Syrup—Making it Yourself": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Feb. 22 & 23. A WCPRC staffer demonstrates how to make maple syrup. *Note:* The 1 p.m. program and the Feb. 23 program are geared towards families. The 3 p.m. program on Feb. 22 is adults only. *1 p.m. (Feb. 22) & 3 p.m. (Feb. 22 & 23), County Farm Park Field Operations bldg., Platt Rd. entrance. Free; preregistration required. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**"U-M Polar Plunge": Special Olympics Michigan Fundraiser.** Brave costumed swimmers plunge into icy water. Followed by a party for swimmers with food and prizes. Registration for plungers begins at 10:30 a.m. *Noon, Michigan Stadium. $75 minimum donation; free for spectators. Preregistration recommended at firstgiving.com/polarplunge/uofmpolarplunge. 476–0701.*

★**"Science Fun with FEMMES": Ann Arbor District Library.** Members of the U-M chapter of Females Excelling More in Math, Engineering, and Science host a science activity for kids in grades K–5. *1–2 p.m. AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Feb. 22 & 23.* Video game tournaments. Prizes *Feb. 22:* **"Super Smash Bros" and "Mario Kart Double Dash."** For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. Pizza dinner. *Feb. 23:* **"Wii Sports Resort."** For all ages. *1–5 p.m. (Feb. 22) & 1–4 p.m. (Feb. 23), AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Decoupage Boxes & Vases": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local crafter Dawn Henry shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to decorate a box or vase using old maps, images from magazines, greeting cards, and other scrap paper. Bring paper items; other supplies provided. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Clay Bangles": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a few bangles using polymer clay. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

Annual Fundraising Banquet: Washtenaw County Pheasants Forever. Buffet dinner, live and silent auctions, and raffles. *5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Tickets $65 (includes membership) in advance by Feb. 12 at washtenawpf.org. Reservations required. 740–7300.*

Fasching Dinner/Dance: Greater Beneficial Union Chapter 630. Traditional German dinner (sauerbraten, spätzle, red cabbage, tossed salad, and bread), followed by dancing to traditional German music by the popular **Enzian Band.** Door prizes, raffle, and costume contest with prizes. Coffee, cake, beer, wine, and pop. Fasching is the German equivalent of Mardi Gras. *6–11 p.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $25. Reservations required by calling Klaus Kummer at 913–9371 or Marianne Rauer at 954–0057.*

★**13th Annual Dance on Camera Festival: U-M Dance Department.** *Feb. 22 & 23.* Screening of a selection of videodance works, curated by U-M dance professor Peter Sparling and screen arts lecturer Terri Sarris, featured in the recent 42nd Annual Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center in New York. Videodance is a hybrid art form that combines the dynamics of dance and the moving body with film/video editing and direction, animation, and computer technology. "The Dance on Camera Festival is one of those NY stealth events, prized by its devotees...where the allusiveness of dance meets the intimacy of film to create a new kind of magic," says former *New York Times* dance critic John Rockwell. *6 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 647–2288.*

"Things My Mother Taught Me": Chelsea Area Players. See 21 Friday. 6 p.m.

"Gospelfest 2014." *See review, p. 73.* All invited to sing gospel music with an immense choir drawn from Detroit- and Ann Arbor–area congregations and the One Voice Gospel Choir. Accompanied by a band. Rehearsals (11:30 a.m.–late afternoon) are followed by dinner. The public is invited to listen for free. *7 p.m., Brown Chapel AME, 1043 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. $15 (includes dinner and sheet music) in advance only at a2gospelfest.wordpress.com or by phone. 316–2107.*

Indonesian Cultural Night: U-M Indonesian Student Association. Indonesian music and dance performances. Last year's show included a performance on the *angklung* (Indonesian instrument made out of bamboo tubes) and *saman* dancing. Preceded at 5 p.m. by Indonesian food. *7 p.m., Angell Hall Auditorium B. $10. ivanman@umich.edu, juganda@umich.edu.*

★**"Chinese and Western Song Concert": U-M Confucius Institute.** The renowned Chinese-bred baritone **Chai-lun Yueh,** who has been featured in concert and leading opera roles throughout China and North America, is joined by 3 local singers—soprano Jie Wang, mezzo-soprano Liyan Sun, and tenors John Liu and Jinsheng Zhang—for a performance of Western and Chinese art songs. *7–9 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 764–8888.*

"13th Annual Rent Party": Jazzistry. Dancing to this local educational jazz history ensemble that's led by saxophonist and clarinetist Vincent York. The program blends dance music with some 50s West Coast jazz. The performers include some of Detroit's top jazz musicians including trumpeter Dwight Adams, pianist Gary Schunk, drummer Renell Gonsalves, guitarist Ron English, bassist Ralphe Armstrong, and vocalist Joan York. Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar. A fundraiser for Jazzistry's award-winning K–12 educational programs. *7:30–10 p.m., EMU Student Center Grand Ballroom, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. $40 (students, $20) in advance, $50 (students, $25) at the door. 761–6024.*

★**Schuyler Slack & Garnet Ungar: U-M School of Music.** Cellist Slack and pianist Ungar—both University of Evansville professors—perform sonatas by Bach, Britten, and Mendelssohn. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

St. Petersburg Philharmonic: University Musical Society. Founded in 1882 as the court orchestra of the czar, this orchestra has survived war, revolution, and political upheaval to reach its current status as Russia's greatest symphonic ensemble. Director Yuri Temirkanov has helped the orchestra establish its reputation for distinctive interpretations of the Russian repertoire. The program is highlighted by a performance of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto in B-flat minor with **Denis Kozhukhin,** a Russian pianist whose "nimble, flying virtuosity is a mix of weightless, supple, acrobatic display and power with a steel core," writes a *Herald Scotland* reviewer. Also, excerpts from Rimsky-Korsakov's *Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh,* and Kancheli's *... al niente.* Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a **prelude dinner** (Rackham building, 4th floor, $75) with a lecture by a speaker TBA about the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $10–$85, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

★**"Kamikaze Theater": U-M Residential College Players.** RC students present an original play that has been conceived, written, and rehearsed within the past 24 hours. *8 p.m., 1324 East Hall, 530 Church. Free. 647–4354.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Romeo & Juliet": U-M Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Theatre des Bouffes du Nord: University Musical Society. See 19 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Hay Fever": U-M Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Ben Creed: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

23 SUNDAY

"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. See 21 Friday. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

★**Sunday Brunch Concert Series: Jewish Community Center.** Local violinist Maria Bessmeltseva is accompanied by pianist Michele Cooker in a program TBA. All invited. *11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $12 (members, $10) includes brunch. Reservations required. 971–0990.*

Gospelfest

Singers of all (and no) faiths

JOEL AUTEN

I knew I'd get the question, and, sure enough, less than five minutes after I arrived someone asked, "So, what's a nice Jewish boy like you doing here at Gospelfest?" Fair question, but those familiar with Gospelfest know that it frequently draws—besides Christians of nearly every denomination, and yes, some Jews—Buddhists, members of the interfaith community, and even agnostics and atheists.

Gospelfest has always pitched a big tent. Jean Wilson, choir director at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Saline and one of the annual event's co-founders, says that, when it began in 1992, the goal was "to bring together many different faith traditions" around a common interest in gospel music. And that's what this nice Jewish boy was doing at Gospelfest: exploring a long-held interest in and affection for gospel music. As the old New York subway ads used to say, "You don't have to be Jewish to love Levy's real rye bread." You also don't have to be Christian to feel stirred by the intricate syncopations, dazzling rhythms, and emotional power of gospel music.

So we, well over a hundred strong, talented amateurs to trained professionals, church choir members and probably some people whose kids ask them to stop singing, spent the afternoon of Gospelfest singing. Led by five music directors from churches around the Ann Arbor area and Detroit, we sang traditional African American spirituals like "I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table" and Curtis Mayfield's "People Get Ready" as well as new songs written by Gospelfest guest directors. The atmosphere was relaxed but focused, the music not easy, and the instruction at once low-key and exacting. When we repeatedly muffed a passage in one of the songs, a director deadpanned, "We'll have to pay the composer extra if we change it, so let's do it the way it's written."

After about four hours of rehearsal, with a short break to share snacks we brought, it was dinnertime, during which we continued the fellowship that Gospelfest encourages. Then came the evening performance, with several of the participating church choirs offering their variety of worship songs and concluding with our mass choir singing the songs we'd learned in the afternoon.

Several times during the day, I thought of Martin Luther King's words, "Eleven o'clock on Sunday morning is the most segregated hour in Christian America." According to Wilson, "Gospelfest has become more and more inclusive. The process of seeing, learning, and participating in new faith traditions has served to take down walls and create relationships."

I left unconverted in my faith (conversion, of course, was never the intention) but feeling that Gospelfest had succeeded in its dual goals of deepening appreciation for gospel music and forming bridges between people.

Gospelfest 2014 will be held on February 22 at Brown Chapel AME Church in Ypsilanti.

—Sandor Slomovits

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste samples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $25. 929–6060.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** First Steps Washtenaw instructor Monica Higman leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and movement. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Self-Heated Earth-Sheltered Michigan Passive House Presentation": Ann Arbor Friends Meeting Sustainability Forum.** Architect and builder Christina Snyder, Michigan's first certified Passive House consultant, discusses a house she built that can heat and power itself using sunlight. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free. ericjengel@gmail.com.*

"Michigan Mania": Ann Arbor Senior Center. Local historian Susan Nenadic discusses family life in Washtenaw County during the early days of the settlement of the Michigan Territory. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5 (seniors age 60 & older, $4; members & kids under 12 with adult, free). Preregistration required. 794–6250.*

"Equality Cabaret": Jim Toy Community Center. Performances by popular Detroit-based pop-rock singer-songwriter **Vienna Teng,** the Lansing folk singer-songwriter duo **Nervous But Excited,** and the **Dueling Divas,** a duo of Arbor Opera Theater singers Callie McKee and Robby Griswold. Emcee is U-M art & design professor **Holly Hughes.** Proceeds go toward legal fees for the DeBoer-Rowse family in their efforts to co-adopt their 3 children. *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $25 ($100 & $250 reserved seating tickets available) in advance at vendini.com and the Michigan Union Ticket Office. 763–TKTS.*

★**Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk TBA by U-M Clements Library associate director Brian Dunnigan. Also, a panel of club members discuss a topic TBA. *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★**"Button Bonanza": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to make button crafts. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Felt Ball Fun": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local crafter Beth Battey shows all ages how to make a felt ball using cotton roving, soap, and water. Supplies provided. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–5763.*

"Things My Mother Taught Me": Chelsea Area Players. See 21 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Romeo & Juliet": U-M Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

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WINTER STREET MAINTENANCE

The City of Ann Arbor performs a variety of winter street maintenance procedures depending upon the type and amount of precipitation. Generally the categories are described as "light snow," "heavy snow," and "snow emergency." In addition the city is dependent upon its citizens for providing sidewalk snow removal.

For up-to-date snow plow status information during winter storms, please use the online snow plow Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL) tracking system. A full report of the city's street snow and ice maintenance procedures, videos on snow removal and safety guidelines, and link to the online snowplow tracking system are posted at www.a2gov.org/snow.

In the event of a snow emergency, information is also posted on the city's Web page at www.a2gov.org and via Cable Television Network (CTN) Channel 16.

LIGHT SNOW

When there is light snow or ice on road surfaces, approximately 98 miles of major streets are treated with chemical de-icing agents. There are eight salt routes within the city. During periods when salting is required and extra personnel are available, more than one unit may be assigned to a route or trouble spots. The street maintenance crews may use between 200 and 500 tons of salt in conjunction with plowing efforts to control a snowfall of up to four inches on major streets. There are several considerations used to determine the best application of the de-icing agents including total amount of snow or ice expected, time frame, temperatures, etc. The streets treated include high volume streets, bridges, signalized intersections, and selected streets with curves or intersections with stop signs. The response starts when the snowfall begins and takes four to five hours to complete after the snow has stopped.

When the major streets are treated for snow and ice, street maintenance crews move into residential areas with additional traction agents, such as sand, to provide better traction to select trouble spots. It takes up to 200 tons of sand per storm in the residential areas when and where road conditions warrant sanding.

HEAVY SNOW

When a snowfall of four inches or more occurs, street plowing begins. The city utilizes all salt/plow trucks and staff available in field operations, including the street maintenance, solid waste, utilities and parks staff and vehicles in a coordinated effort to treat all streets in the city. While the regular street maintenance crews focus on treating the major streets, the other crews begin treating residential streets, beginning with the routes next scheduled for refuse pick-up if containers are not already out at the curb. A variety of smaller trucks and equipment is used to treat dead ends and cul-de-sacs in the residential areas once the through streets have been treated. When the street maintenance crews have completed the major streets, crews and equipment are sent to apply sand in the residential areas.

Winter maintenance equipment is staffed on a 24-hour per day schedule (12-hour shifts) until all city-maintained streets are treated. The city's goal is to treat all major and residential streets within 24 hours of an "average" four-inch snowstorm. The Snow Desk is staffed 7:00 A.M. – 11:00 P.M. to answer citizen questions during residential operations at 734.794.6367.

Citizens are encouraged to remove cars from curbside parking to allow for effective street plowing. All schools and privately owned areas provide their own de-icing and plowing.

SNOW EMERGENCY

During a snow emergency, special parking restrictions go into effect for designated streets in the city.

City Code (Chapter 126, Section 10:143) empowers the city administrator to declare a "snow emergency" during a severe winter storm. Where street parking is normally permitted, restrictions go into effect to allow curbside access to city crews to treat the street surfaces. "Snow emergency" streets must be kept clear of parked cars at all times during the "snow emergency." If a vehicle is parked on a "snow emergency" street, it may be ticketed and towed.

Up-to-date information regarding current parking restrictions and progress can be found on CTN channel 16 and the city's Web page at www.a2gov.org or by calling the Snow Desk at 734.794.6367.

SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

The city reminds property owners or occupants that all snow and ice that has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk prior to 6 a.m. must be removed by noon from non-residentially zoned properties. Immediately after the accumulation of ice on such a sidewalk it must be treated with sand, salt or other substance to prevent it from being slippery. Within 24 hours after the end of each accumulation of snow greater than 1 inch, the owner of every residentially zoned property must remove the accumulation from the adjacent public sidewalk and ramps leading to a crosswalk. Ice must be treated as mentioned above and removed within 24 hours after formation.

If a citizen has a concern regarding sidewalk snow removal 24 hours after the end of an accumulation greater than one inch, Community Standards is ready to help. Citizens may call (734) 794-6942 (M-F, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) to report locations that may be in violation of the city snow removal ordinance. When calling, citizens should be prepared to leave their name and number in case staff requires additional information. Caller's names and numbers are kept in strict confidence and are only used to process service requests.

During the winter the city provides residents with up to one, five-gallon bucket's worth of a sand and salt mixture, per visit to the maintenance yard, 721 N. Main. Residents should bring their own shovel and bucket and self-load this material from the marked pile located next to the entrance gate. This material is intended for city residents only, and not for contractors, even if servicing sidewalks.

STREET SNOW & ICE CONTROL PRACTICES

Each snow event requires that the operation varies in the amount of service performed and the personnel and equipment needed. For example, if the potential for freezing conditions exists, a salting operation would be initiated to melt snow or ice accumulated in depth less than approximately one inch, or to prevent the bonding of packed snow to the pavement. If the snow and ice accumulation continues, and if the de-icing of major streets ceases to be effective, then the city changes from a de-icing configuration to a snow plowing and snow removal operation. Plowing would be initiated if a snow accumulation of approximately four inches or more existed. Upon notification of an impending snowstorm, a decision is made to implement operations for clearing city streets. Back-to-back snow events less than four inches may cause the need for plowing, even though the events individually would not have warranted plowing.

During plowing operations it is an unavoidable consequence that snow will be moved into driveways and some sidewalks as it is pushed by the plows. During major events field operations maintains an online snow desk to assist property owners in tracking the progression of winter maintenance. Citizens may call 734.794.6367 or consult the www.a2gov.org/snow Web page for up-to-date information.

During an event the emphasis is to keep the major streets open and passable to traffic. Once the snow or ice event ceases, then efforts continue with the plowing of major streets, sometimes followed immediately by the application of additional de-icing materials, and then will shift into a program of plowing residential streets.

Winter maintenance of on-road bike lanes is performed in conjunction with operations on the adjacent road.

The goal is to have all streets treated within 24 hours of the end of an average four-inch snow or ice event. Other follow-up activities include the treatment of intersections, hills, curves, and other critical areas on residential streets, both in response to historical problems and new problems as they are called in.

WASTE & RECYCLING

Place trash and recycling carts in a clear street or driveway by 7 a.m. on your weekly collection day, with 3' between each cart. Access to dumpsters must be kept clear of snow and ice.

"Hay Fever": U-M Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**Stephanie Kadel Taras: Nicola's Books.** This local writer discusses ***Mountain Girls,*** her new memoir about the history and culture of her home state of West Virginia and the choices women make in today's mobile society. Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Kaycee Ware Thomas & Daniel Thomas: First United Methodist Church Green Wood Chamber Music Series. The local husband-and-wife duo of oboist Kaycee, an Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts teacher, and cellist Daniel, an EMU music professor, performs works by Handel, Beethoven, Robert Kahn, Kalevi Aho, and Nikola Resnovic. Reception follows. *3 p.m., FUMC Green Wood, 1001 Green Rd. Freewill offering. 662–4536, ext. 0.*

★**Dexter Community Orchestra.** Guest conductor Charles Ellis directs this volunteer ensemble in Brahms' Symphony no. 2. Also, the orchestra's regular conductor, cellist Anthony Elliott, is the featured soloist in the Sandman's song from Humperdinck's *Hansel & Gretel* and Ernst Bloch's *Schelomo, Hebraic Rhapsody. 4 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south off Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 355–0725.*

★**Stephen Shipps, Freda Herseth, & Timothy Cheek: U-M School of Music.** Violinist Shipps, mezzo-soprano Herseth, and pianist Cheek—all U-M music professors—perform Vítezslava Kaprálová's melodrama *To Karel Capek,* Josef Suk's "Love Song," Jaroslav Kricka's song cycle *Northern Lights,* and Ladislav Vycpálek's monumental Sonata in D major ("In Praise of the Violin"). *4 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

The Ellen Rowe Quintet: Kerrytown Concert House. Led by U-M jazz piano professor Rowe, this jazz ensemble celebrates the release of its album *Courage Music.* With saxophonist Andrew Bishop, bassist Kurt Krahnke, drummer Pete Siers, and trumpeter Ingrid Jensen. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

24 MONDAY

★**"Should Academics Get Down and Dirty with YouTube?": U-M Hatcher Grad Library.** Talk by U-M School of Public Health Risk Science Center director Andrew Maynard. *10–11:30 a.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–3499.*

★**"Folk Song Sing-Along."** All invited to join a family-oriented recreational sing-along of folk songs. Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Lyrics and chords are projected on a screen for singers and strummers. Led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski. *7 p.m., First Unitarian-Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 426–7818.*

25 TUESDAY

★**"Controlled Ecological Burn Public Meeting": Ann Arbor District Library/Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation.** A chance to find out about the nature and purpose of the ecological burns the city conducts in city parks on weekdays throughout the spring and fall. The city holds a training session (preregistration required by Feb. 25 by calling 794–6627 or email to NAP@a2gov.org) at Leslie Science & Nature Center at noon on Feb. 27 for volunteers to help with the burns. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Everyday Antiracism: Getting Real about Race in School": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Racial Justice Book Group.** All invited to join a discussion of sections E & F of this collection of essays that address race and inequality in schools. *7–9 p.m., Northside Presbyterian/St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. Child care available with advance notice. chuck@icpj.net, 663–1870.*

★**Kim Harrison: Nicola's Books.** This best-selling writer discusses ***The Undead Pool,*** the latest novel in her Hollows series about supernatural superhero Rachel Morgan who, this time, must counter a strange magic that could start a civil war in the supernatural world. Q&A and signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**University Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Choir, University Choir, and Orpheus Singers: U-M School of Music.** Christopher Kendall and Jerry Blackstone conduct these ensembles of music majors in U-M music professor Michael Daugherty's *Mount Rushmore,* a song setting of texts by George Washington, William Billings, Thomas Jefferson, Maria Cosway, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln that's divided into movements that represent each of the 4 presidents carved into Mount Rushmore. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

26 WEDNESDAY

★**"The Strange Career of the Filipino 'National'": U-M American Culture Department.** Talk by Oberlin College American studies professor Rick Baldoz. Refreshments. *11:30 a.m., 3512 Haven Hall. 505 S. State. Free. 647–9535.*

★**Brown Bag Organ Recital: U-M School of Music.** Performance by St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church (Iowa) organist James Hammann. Bring a bag lunch, if you wish. *12:15–12:45 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Lounge, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"The Man Who Lost Himself": Concordia University Books & Coffee.** Concordia business professor Suzy Siegle leads a discussion of June Callwood's biography of Terry Evanshen, the Canadian football player who was injured in a car accident and woke from a coma two weeks later with no memories. *4 p.m., Concordia University Earhart Manor Living Room, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–4612.*

★**"Black Holes, Gravity, and Cosmic Geometry": U-M Natural History Museum Science Cafe.** Talks by U-M mathematics professor Lydia Bieri and U-M astronomy professor Kayhan Gultekin. Discussion follows. *5:30–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764–0478.*

★**MiRobotClub.** All robotics hobbyists invited to work on and discuss robots. *7–9 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd north of Ellsworth). Free. mirobotclub.com.*

★**Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Renowned dwarf conifer propagator and plant grafter Andy Duvall discusses techniques to graft woody material to improve bonsai appearance. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. (313) 930–1305.*

★**"Growing Your Resilience with Flower Essences": People's Food Co-op.** Bach International Education Program instructor Carol Bennington discusses flower essences—remedies developed by the English homeopath Edward Bach in the 1930s—and their uses. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free; donations accepted. 726–4303.*

★**"Martin Bandyke's Moving Pictures": Ann Arbor District Library.** 107.1–FM morning host Bandyke is joined by Michigan Theater executive director Russ Collins to discuss who should and who will win at the 2014 Oscars. Q&A. Also, a preview of hot films coming to the Michigan this year. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Reading by U-M Dearborn humanities & African American studies professor **Gloria House,** whose 3 collections of poetry reflect her lifelong involvement in civil rights struggles, African American community development, and Third World solidarity causes. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss John Freely's ***Before Galileo: The Birth of Modern Science in Medieval Europe.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"RMW(a)/RMW": U-M School of Music, Theatre, & Dance.** *Feb. 26 & 27.* Experimental dance artists **Jennifer Monson** and **DD Dorvillier** perform their collaborative works, including this landmark 1990s duet that explores the representation of queer desire. *7:30 p.m., Duderstadt Center Video Studio, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

27 THURSDAY

★**"Masculinizing American Jewish Philanthropy": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by Frankel fellow Beth Wenger. *12:15 p.m., 2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

"Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea, petits fours, and cookies to kids and their families. Also, fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. *1 & 4 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. $11 (babies age 18 months & younger, free). Preregistration required. 665–2757.*

★**"Go! Ice Cream Presents the Story of Delicious Ingredients": Ann Arbor District Library.** Go! Ice Cream (Ypsilanti) artisanal ice cream owner Rob Hess discusses the ingredients behind his favorite flavors. *7–8:30 p.m. AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 7 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Feb. 27–Apr. 6.* Suzanne Regan directs David Ives' 2011 Tony-nominated 2-person comic drama about a writer grumbling about the caliber of actresses who have auditioned for his adaptation of Sacher-Masoch's 1870 novel *Venus in Furs,* when he is waylaid by a latecomer who seems even less promising than her predecessors. But when she convinces him to read through his play with her, she exhibits a strange mastery of the material, and the lines between art and reality gradually dissolve as she engages him in an increasingly serious battle for domination. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), & 3 p.m. (Mar. 15 & 29), Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Feb. 27), $22 (Feb. 28 and Mar. 2 & 6), and $30 (Mar. 1). Mar. 7 opening night tickets: $39 & $41 includes reception. After Mar. 7: $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

★**"RMW(a)/RMW": U-M School of Music, Theatre, & Dance.** See 26 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Feb. 27–Mar. 1.* This popular comic, winner of the 2004 Michigan Comedy Survivor competition, performs with a nervous energy that regularly explodes into bizarre observations and goofy enlightenments about jumping rope, talking sirens, barcodes, and other pointless things you've never stopped to think about. "If you liked the kid in the lunchroom who made you spit milk out your nose, you'll love Mike Green," says the *Detroit Free Press.* Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

28 FRIDAY

"Parents' Night Out": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Parents invited to leave their kids ages 7–12 for a program that includes exploring the LSNC grounds and facilities, games, a pizza dinner, after-dinner visits with a raptor and the critter house, and a nature-themed movie and snack. *4–10 p.m. (early pickup times can be arranged in advance), LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $25 per child. 997–1533.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. BYU and Kent State. *7 p.m., Crisler Center. $7 (youth & seniors, $5). 764–0247.*

★**"O Say Can You See ...?": U-M Theatre Department.** Timothy Douglas directs a staged reading of fellow U-M theater professor Charles OyamO Gordon's drama, set in the racially turbulent times of the late 19th century, that focuses on 2 men—a black baseball player who plays briefly in the major leagues just before blacks were barred, and a white man who performs in blackface to raise enough money to form an entire troupe of blackface minstrels. *7:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–5350.*

Neoterica Flutes: Kerrytown Concert House. This duo of flutists **Brandy Hudelson** and **Shanna Gutierrez** combines flute beatboxing—an extended technique that creates rhythmic effects—improvisation, and vocal percussion in a program of avant-garde works for amplified flute, including a new work by German composer Peter Koeszeghy. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 27 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

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Classifieds

Wanted

The **Classifieds deadline** for the March issue is February 10.

Experienced (3 yrs.) Dental Front Desk Receptionist needed for busy Canton office. Articulate, friendly, punctual, with broad knowledge of dental billing and terminology. Ability to answer phones with a smile! Must be a multi-tasker and remain courteous under pressure. ONLY APPLICANTS WITH DENTAL EXPERIENCE WILL BE CONSIDERED! Send resume to janice@cantondentists.com

Experienced Dental Assistant Must be punctual, friendly, and take directions without attitude. Skills required include taking digital X-rays, alginate impressions, making temporary crowns, and cleaning cement. ONLY APPLICANTS WITH DENTAL EXPERIENCE OVER 3 YEARS WILL BE CONSIDERED. Send resume to janice@cantondentists.com

GUIDES RESEARCHERS (2) Conscientious, diligent, resourceful people with excellent English skills needed for temporary work at the Ann Arbor Observer as City Guide and Community Guide researchers. Must be available for most of the period from May through August. One full-time (40 hours/week) and one part-time (20 hours/week) position available. The job requires tremendous attention to detail, ability to track down information, suitable people skills, good writing skills, & a penchant for accuracy and thoroughness. Please send resume and cover letter to James Manheim, Deputy Editor, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, or email jim@aaobserver.com. No phone calls, please. Deadline for applications is March 1.

Lessons & Workshops

The **Classifieds deadline** for the March issue is February 10.

Piano and Guitar Lessons. Call 646–2740 for a free lesson. 59 years playing piano—22 on guitar. U-M Music Ed and EMU conducting.

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Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the March issue is February 10.

I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 83? If you can, you could win a $25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the March issue is February 10.

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Mail, email, or fax your ad to:
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2390 Winewood Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103
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Please include your name and contact information.

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Home

The **Classifieds deadline** for the March issue is February 10.

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OR

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Why is this important? To maintain our second class periodical postal status, which includes a faster, more economical delivery service, we have to show the post office that our readers want to keep receiving the Ann Arbor Observer.

Since 1976, the Observer has been a locally owned community resource. We want to continue to provide the Observer to all permanent Ann Arbor residents and chamber members in Washtenaw County. We are making every effort to keep costs in line and maintain our commitment to quality. If you can't afford to become an "Observer Friend" by paying for your subscription, **please take a few minutes to confirm your FREE subscription**.

Thanks for reading the Observer.

Sincerely,

Patricia Garcia
Publisher

All new "Observer Friends" and FREE subscription confirmations received **by February 14** will be entered in a drawing for one of two **$25 Gift Certificates** at your choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

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☐ **Yes!** I am a resident of the Ann Arbor Public School District and I want to become an Observer Friend. Enclosed is my check for $20. Enter me in the $25 Gift Certificate drawing!

Mail this form with your check made payable to the Ann Arbor Observer, or to charge call Circulation at (734) 769–3175.

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Real Estate

Residential and Commercial Properties
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5 HIGHLAND LANE, ANN ARBOR—Distinctive 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath mid-century modern home. Designed by noted architect George Brigham, this 2926 sq. ft. home is nestled in a quiet cul-de-sac, a short walk to Nichols Arboretum, Angell school, campus and downtown. The wide entry welcomes you to a home that embraces the hallmarks so desirable in architecture of this era. A substantial flagstone fireplace anchors the home, complemented by warm wood beamed ceilings and classic modern details. Natural light floods the rooms through continuous walls of windows. The entire home gently curved to emphasize the natural setting of the backyard. Carefully maintained without compromising its design integrity, this home is a rare find. $598,000.

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February – Market Update

Wow, what a year! 2013 will go down as one of the strongest years in the history of Ann Arbor real estate. Fueled by our strong economy and record low interest rates, our market soared with many homes appreciating 10% or more. My personal sales set an all time record. The same trends continue to dominate our market and 2014 looks to be another great year. Are you thinking of buying or selling in 2014? Call me today to start planning! 734-476-7100

SELLERS – The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today, 734-476-7100.

BUYERS – Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search, 734- 476-7100.

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SALINE – Incredible opportunity to own a 91-acre estate property directly adjoining the City of Saline. This land is perfectly set for large scale residential development. Land is rolling with woods and open farm fields. Property includes 3500 sq. ft. home and small barn. Could be a great horse farm as well. $2,500,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GEDDES GLEN – This 5-bedroom, 2.5 bathroom custom-built home represents the finest in location, design, and craftsmanship. Incredible setting in Ann Arbor's only gated community. Enjoy quality outdoor living with full exterior kitchen, multiple patios with fireplace and hot tub. The interior is a showplace and includes dual staircase in entry, two-story living and family rooms, cherry kitchen, dream master suite, and finished lower level with theater. $1,899,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DEXTER SCHOOLS – Incredible 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom built home on 4 private acres just minutes from town. The setting is highlighted by the mature trees, large deck, patio, and one of the finest outbuildings you'll find anywhere. The interior is custom throughout and includes a gourmet kitchen with granite, two-story family room with wall of glass, large den, luxury master suite, and fantastic basement. Finished rec room, theater, bedroom, and bath. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL PARK – This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bathroom colonial on a quiet street deep within the sub is one of the best homes you will find. Great setting backing to common area with extensive large deck and patio. The interior is gorgeous and features two-story family room, large kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, den, luxury master suite with sitting area and 2 walk-in closets, and finished basement with large rec room, bedroom, and bath. $649,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Stunning custom-built 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath home on a private 2-acre setting just minutes from everything. Gorgeous lot with mature landscaping and large patio. Home is loaded and features ample hardwood floor, dream kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, family room with field stone fireplace, luxury master suite with sitting area, glamor bath, and bonus room, and prof finished lower level with rec room, spa-bath, den, wine cellar, and exercise room. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WINES ELEMENTARY – Custom built 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath colonial in Riverwood. Gorgeous setting adjacent to Newport Creek nature area. Great outdoor living with incredible privacy, extensive landscaping, and 3 patios. The interior is a showpiece and includes two story family, open kitchen with hardwood floors and granite counter tops, den, luxury master suite with sitting area and fireplace, guest suite, and Jack-n-Jill bath. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

COUNTRY VICTORIAN – Incredible 5-bedroom, 2-bath, 1800s Victorian on 6 peaceful acres just minutes to I-94 and US-23 in Augusta Township. Great setting with numerous outbuildings and large pond. Home is classic and oozes are the charm and character you would expect in this era home. Features include 10' first floor ceilings, extensive molding, large porches, extensive remodeling and restorations, and finished basement. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRIARHILL – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath colonial on a quiet interior lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Great setting with fenced backyard, patio, and nice landscaping. Home features two-story foyer, den, large living room and dining room, open kitchen with upgraded cabinets and stainless steel appliances, very large family room with fireplace, great master suite includes walk-in closet and bath, and nice-sized kids' bedrooms. $389,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LAKE FOREST – Perfect 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom colonial on one of the nicest lots in neighborhood. Great setting features mature trees and landscaping, large backyard, and deck. The interior is move-in ready with fresh paint and new carpet. Features include two-story foyer, large family room, open kitchen, flex-use living room, great master suite with w/closet, nice sized kids bedrooms, and walkout basement. $339,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP – Perfectly maintained 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom ranch on 2.5-peaceful acres backing to a gorgeous pond. Great location between Ann Arbor and Plymouth, easy for commuters. Great setting with large deck overlooking the pond. Home is in perfect condition and features sunny great room with fireplace, kitchen with granite counters, and sizeable bedrooms. $314,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WALK TO DOWNTOWN – Updated duplex just a few blocks from downtown Ann Arbor. Property features one 3-bedroom, and one 1-bedroom apartments. Great for owner occupied or easy rental income. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

OAK MEADOWS CONDO – Great 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom condo in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after complexes. Enjoy this great condo with pool that is convenient to everything. This unit is sharp and features kitchen with granite counter tops, open living room with fireplace, nice master suite, and finished basement. $234,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TRAVIS POINTE – Simply the best! Perfectly designed and custom-built 6-bedroom, 6.5-bath overlooking the #2 fairway at Travis Pointe Country Club. The home is a showpiece of design, materials, and impeccable decor. Features include large patio with built-in Viking grill, soaring great room with two-story stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, and one of the nicest finished basements you see. $1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home is one of the premier homes in Saline. Great setting with circle drive, extensive landscaping and two patios. The interior is finished at the highest level of design, craftsmanship and materials. Features include two-story great room with wall of glass, gourmet kitchen with professional grade appliances, stately den with bookcases, dream master suite, and one of the nicest finished basements you will see. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Incredible 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home on a perfectly private lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Stunning grounds featuring extensive landscaping, circle drive, screened porch, deck, and patio. The interior is loaded and is highlighted by the two-story great room with wall of windows, cherry kitchen, two master suites, den and finished walkout basement. $759,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bathroom home has undergone an extreme home makeover. Every inch has been remodeled and updated to the highest standards. Incredible setting features circle drive, extensive landscaping, patio, deck, and pool. The interior is a dream including Mahogany flooring, cherry kitchen with granite, huge sunroom, luxury master suite and finished lower level. Incredible. $749,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

POLO FIELDS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath colonial that has been completely remodeled from top to bottom. Great location deep within the neighborhood. Gorgeous landscaping, huge deck, patio, and large backyard. The interior of the home is perfect and features story foyer, den, cherry kitchen with granite, open family room, luxury master suite with remodeled bath, and the finished basement is as nice as you'll see. $639,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Custom built country estate on 10 gorgeous acres. Incredible setting highlighted by mature forest, open grassland, and extensive landscaping. The home is built to the highest standard with extreme attention to detail and quality. Features include custom cherry kitchen with prof grade appliances, luxury master suite, finished walkout basement, and in-floor heating system. $639,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE ESTATE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom colonial by Toll Brothers on a spacious acre lot in one of the area's most sought after neighborhoods. Great setting with extensive landscaping and brick paver patio. This home is gorgeous with designer décor throughout. Features include all hardwood flooring on main floor, maple kitchen with granite, two-story family room with back stair, luxury master suite, and great kids bedrooms. $629,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING -ARBORETUM AREA – Completely remodeled 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom contemporary overlooking the Huron River Valley just minutes from U of M and all hospitals. Incredible setting with hilltop views of The Arb and valley. Home is stunning and includes multiple decks and patios, great room with wall of glass, cherry kitchen with granite and SS appliances, all hardwood flooring, luxury master suite, two studies, and family room with fireplace. $629,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This is one of the most incredible homes I have ever listed. Stunning Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home built to the highest standard of craftsmanship and materials. Enjoy your own park-like acre plus setting with mature landscaping, large patio, and stream. Home is jaw dropping at every turn including custom kitchen with granite, custom woodwork in every room, two fireplaces, waterfall, and outbuilding. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TRAVIS POINTE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath all brick home on the #17 fairway at Travis Pointe. Incredible setting with great views of the golf course from the large decks and screened porch. The interior of this home features two-story great room with floor to ceiling brick fireplace, spacious kitchen, family room, den, luxury master suite, and great kids' bedrooms. $500,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK PLACE – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom home on a gorgeous acre lot overlooking a pond. Perfect setting in one of Saline's most desired subs on a quiet cul-de-sac with extensive landscaping, large deck, and huge backyard. Home features two story foyer, family room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, den, large kitchen, nice master suite, and good-sized kid's bedrooms. $440,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath ranch on a quiet lot in Stonebridge. This home has great flair and includes great room with fireplace, maple kitchen, screened porch, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows, rec room, bedroom, den, and bath. You will love this home! $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL PARK – Wonderful 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath colonial in one of Saline school district's most popular neighborhoods. Enjoy panoramic view of open space from the oversized deck of this perfectly maintained home. The interior is in perfect move-in condition and features maple kitchen, open family room, large formal living and dining room, very nice master suite with great bath, and large kids bedrooms. Walk to Harvest Elementary and Saline High. $375,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DEXTER – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath colonial rests on a gorgeous 2.5-acre setting. Incredible land with mature trees, complete privacy, and ample wildlife. The home is stunning and includes custom kitchen with stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace, den, luxury master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and finished walkout basement with large rec room and bar. $372,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE CONDO – This 3-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom detached condo has one of the nicest golf course views you will see. Enjoy complete view of the #3 hole at Stonebridge from the large Trex deck. The interior of this home sparkles and features great room with two-story ceiling, kitchen with hardwood floor and quartz counter tops, den, large master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. $369,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SCIO TOWNSHIP – Hard to find 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on 10-acres. Incredible setting in this horse friendly community just minutes from Ann Arbor. The interior features open great room with wall of glass to the backyard, spacious kitchen, nice master suite, and spacious bedrooms. Home is sharp and in move-in condition. $339,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HICKORY POINTE – Incredible 3000 sq. ft. 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom colonial in on of the area's most desired subs. This home rests on a quiet interior lot with great elbowroom, walking distance to community pool. The interior shows like a model home and features large formal living and dining rooms, spacious kitchen, great family room with stone fireplace, luxury master suite with huge walk-in closet, bath, and sitting room/den, and sizeable kids bedrooms. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100. $314,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DICKEN ELEMENTARY – This 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom colonial is walking distance to Dicken, Pioneer, and UM Stadium and is ready for your modernizing touches. Great setting on one of the prettiest tree-lined streets you will see. The interior features hardwood floors in almost every room, large living room, open kitchen, family room, formal dining, master suite with attached bath, and nice sized kids bedrooms. $269,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GREENHILLS CONDO – Completely remodeled 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath condo in one of NE Ann Arbor's most popular complexes. This unit backs to wooded common area. Great setting with mature landscaping and large patio. The interior of this unit features new cherry kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, cherry floors, large great room with wall of glass to backyard, expanded master suite, and finished basement. $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – On Golden Pond. Incredible setting for this 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom home overlooking Island Lake. Peaceful and gorgeous views of this non-sports lake. Perfect for nature lovers with multiple decks and screened porch. Home features maple kitchen, great room with wall of glass to the lake, and nice master bedroom. Two garages, one with finished loft area. $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Charming westside two-story loaded with charm and potential. Just a short walk to downtown Ann Arbor, you won't find this much house for the dollar anywhere! Home has original hardwood floors and trim, some updates complete, and is ready for your finishing touches. Screened porch. $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR CONDO – Great 2-bedroom, 2.5-bath condo in Oak Meadows. This unit features numerous upgrades in one of the most popular complexes in town. This end unit includes two-story great room, ample hardwood floors, open kitchen, great master suite with walk-in closet and attached bath, second bedroom suite, and finished basement with large rec room and additional .5-bath. $219,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Charming 3+ bedroom, 3.5-bathroom cape walking distance to schools and downtown Manchester. Incredible setting features great landscaping, large deck, spacious backyard, and mature trees. The interior of this home sparkles and features a large great room, open kitchen, first floor master bedroom, sizeable kids bedrooms, bonus room, and finished walkout basement. $219,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE CONDO – Perfect 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath condo convenient to everything. This unit is stunning with great living space and perfect updates. Features include living room with hardwood floors, open kitchen, family room with fireplace, great master suite with walk-in closet, and two spare bedrooms. Finished lower level makes great office. Two-car attached garage. $214,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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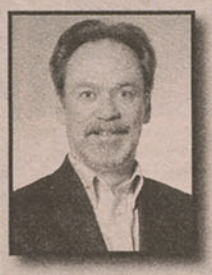

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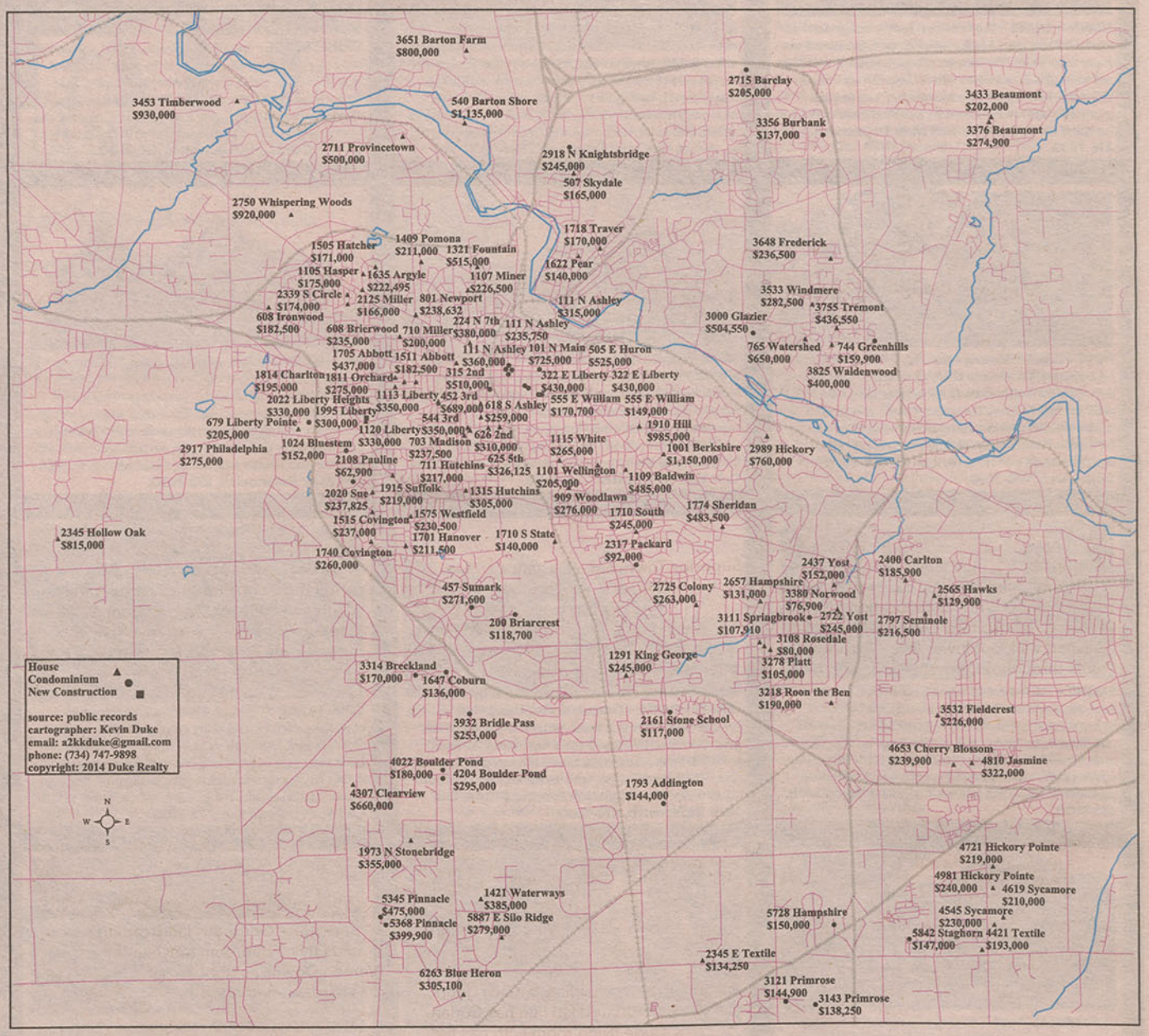
HOME SALES



More homes changed hands in 2013 than in any year since 2005, according to public records. That made it a great year for local Realtors, who arranged 88 percent of all sales in the Ann Arbor school district (the rest were sold by owners or by builders directly). The table below breaks down the top seven brokers' activity for 2013 based on an analysis of Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors' MLS data. Between them, the seven were involved in 83 percent of all Realtor-assisted sales.

We credited brokers with a sale if they represented a seller or a buyer in a transaction, since that is how commissions are split. If commissions averaged 6 percent—a reasonable estimate—then last year's $527 million in sales would have generated nearly $32 million in commission income. In all, Realtors sold 1,832 single-family homes and condominiums in the school district in 2013. Double that figure represents the number (3,664) of "sides" at stake in the tussle for a commission.

The Charles Reinhart Company handled 39.8 percent of all sales in the school district. Meanwhile, longtime runner-up the Edward Surovell Company slipped to 13 percent. As recently as 2005, Surovell came within twelve sales of Reinhart; last year, the gap was 981. Surovell finished the year in third place, behind Keller Williams' 14.6 percent.

Look for Surovell's totals under the Howard Hanna name: the firm was sold in October 2012 and quickly adopted its new owner's brand. Much more quietly, Reinhart also changed hands: it was acquired last year by Real Estate One. Real Estate One already had a presence in Ann Arbor, and that office continues to operate independently; if they were combined, the two would represent nearly 48 percent of the market activity.

Two factors playing out on a national level may have spurred the sales of the Surovell and Reinhart businesses. One was the resurgence in home sales. The end of the Great Recession lifted the income of Ann Arbor brokerages and thus their value to prospective buyers. The second factor was that after years of relatively low taxes on long-term capital gains, talk grew very serious in Washington about raising the capital gains rate. Nationwide, everyone with an asset to sell was put on notice that a window of opportunity might be closing soon.

—Kevin Duke

Rank	Ann Arbor Brand	Sales	Share	Agents	Franchiser Office	Offices	Agents
1	Charles Reinhart	1,457	39.8%	193	Southfield, MI	68	1,800
2	Keller Williams	534	14.6%	131	Austin, TX	700	93,000
3	Howard Hanna	476	13.0%	90	Pittsburgh, PA	167	5,700
4	Real Estate One	282	7.7%	101	Southfield, MI	68	1,800
5	Coldwell Banker	100	2.7%	13	Parsippany, NJ	3,100	84,000
6	RE/MAX	97	2.6%	28	Denver, CO	6,000	90,000
7	Prudential Snyder	81	2.2%	27	Newark, NJ	1,900	62,000

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For the 12th year in a row, The Bouma Group has sold more homes than anyone else in Washtenaw County. Having sold over 3,200 homes in his career, Martin and his team ended the year with a 31% increase in business, resulting in 238 closed transactions.

Ann Arbor – Distinctive 5 bedroom home tucked back in the prestigious Woodlands neighborhood. Premium location just minutes to hospitals. Over 6,800 sq. ft. with finished walk-out lower level. Amazing features throughout. Private yard with decks, patios, and pool. $1,050,000

Superior Township – Elegance and luxury await you in this stunning 5 bedroom, 6.1 bath Toll Brothers home at Arbor Hills. Gorgeous 1-acre lot backs to 10-acre nature preserve. Grand 2-story foyer with double staircase. First-floor guest suite. Finished walkout lower level. $975,000

Ann Arbor – Situated on a corner lot, this Toll Brothers 'Stratford' model offers everything you would expect from a Walnut Ridge luxury home! 4 bedrooms, all with private baths, 2 with private studies, a conservatory, solarium, library, and a finished walkout lower level. $860,000

Ann Arbor – Impeccable Walnut Ridge home backing to a private, wooded area. Bright, 2-story foyer with a sweeping staircase invites you in. Gourmet kitchen is open to the 2-story great room with a cozy fireplace and a wall of windows. 4-season sunroom with skylights. $819,900

Ann Arbor – Wildwood Park! Rare for the area, side by side duplex – each with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, screened porch, hardwood floors, basement, and garage. Within walking distance of downtown. Great opportunity for owner occupied income property! $384,900

Ann Arbor – Situated on a park-like acre of land within walking distance to the Huron River, this lovely home offers 4 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, crown molding, French doors, & skylights. Updated kitchen has Corian counters. Huge living room with gas fireplace and large windows. $369,900

Ann Arbor – Gorgeous landscaping surrounds this 3 bedroom ranch in the popular Vernon Downs neighborhood. Living room has hardwood floors, a cozy fireplace, large windows, and an adjoining dining area. Updated kitchen. Partially finished lower-level. Fenced back yard. $225,000

Saline – This beautifully updated ranch-style home has a premier location next to Pleasant Ridge School. Gleaming hardwood floors and Andersen windows throughout. Kitchen features new cabinets and stainless appliances. Family room addition and finished lower-level. $179,900

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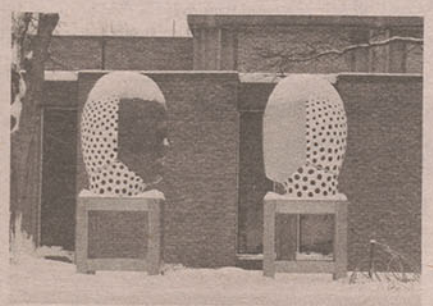
i spy

by Sally Bjork

Originally on Willis Rd.

"The relatively new sculpture," says Cathy Behrendt of January's I Spy image, is "in front of the Earl V. Moore building on U-M's North Campus." The paired, larger-than-life heads are the work of Omaha artist Jun Kaneko, who, as our clue noted, is also known for his costume and set designs for opera productions.

Though the sculpture is untitled, Kaneko generally refers to pieces in this series as "heads." Most of the heads he's done elsewhere are ceramic, but the ones at U-M—gifted anonymously and installed this past October—are bronze.



The work is intended to pull viewers in, and does. "While not unwelcome, it still surprises me every time I go to the building," shares Olivia Popp.

We received eight correct entries identifying the sculpture, including one from Christianne Myers, who acknowledges that she may have an "an unfair advantage"—she's a costume designer on the faculty of the Moore Building's tenant, the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Our winner, drawn randomly from among the correct entries, is Amrita Joshi of Ann Arbor. She will enjoy her $25 gift certificate at Seva.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene, then follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

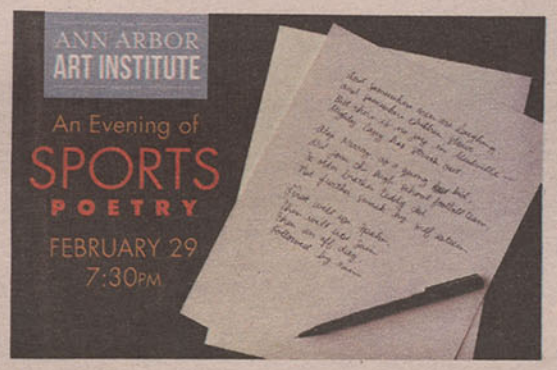
"What a treat it was to see Gerald V. Hern's *Boston Post* poem, 'Spahn and Sain and Pray for Rain' from 1948 used in your ad!" wrote Bruce Conforth in his entry this month. "Sain was such a great pitcher! Anyway, the Fake Ad is The Evening of Sports Poetry on page 55!"

Conforth said it all. Well, almost all. The complete poem is, "First we'll use Spahn, then we'll use Sain. Then an off day, followed by rain. Back will come Spahn followed by Sain. And followed we hope by two days of rain." The poem immortalized the two pitchers, who starred for the Boston Braves.

"Johnny Sain … was the Tigers' pitching coach in the 60's," added Carol Mousigian. "They reworked that prose during the '68 pennant year to read 'Lolich and McLain, pray for rain.'"

We received 115 entries correctly identifying the January Fake Ad. Tessa Roth was chosen as our winner. She's taking her gift certificate to Whole Foods Market.

To enter this month's contest, find the Fake Ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The Fake Ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.



To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on Monday, February 10, will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

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We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

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Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our January drawing!

The following readers won a **$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

January winners:
Charlotte V. and Max & Borah B.

If you would like to be entered in the February drawing for a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 76, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by February 14.

Thanks!

Observer Staff

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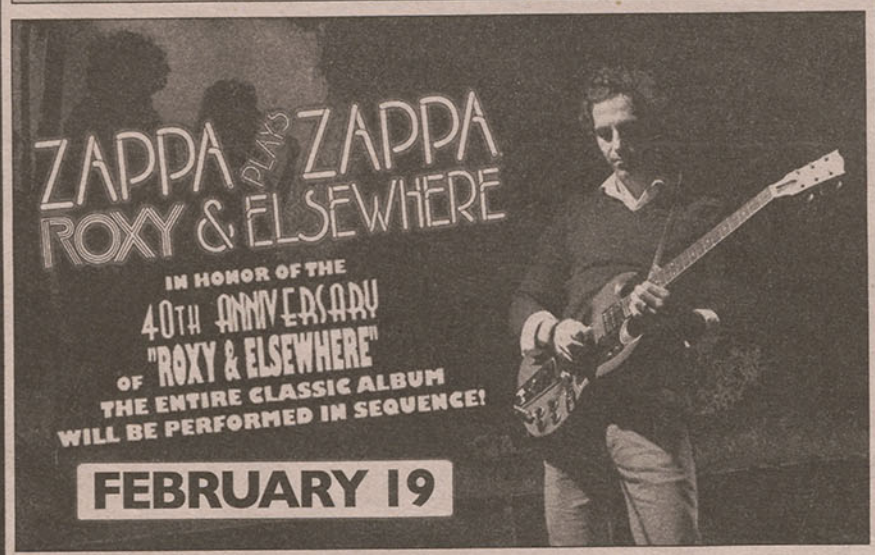

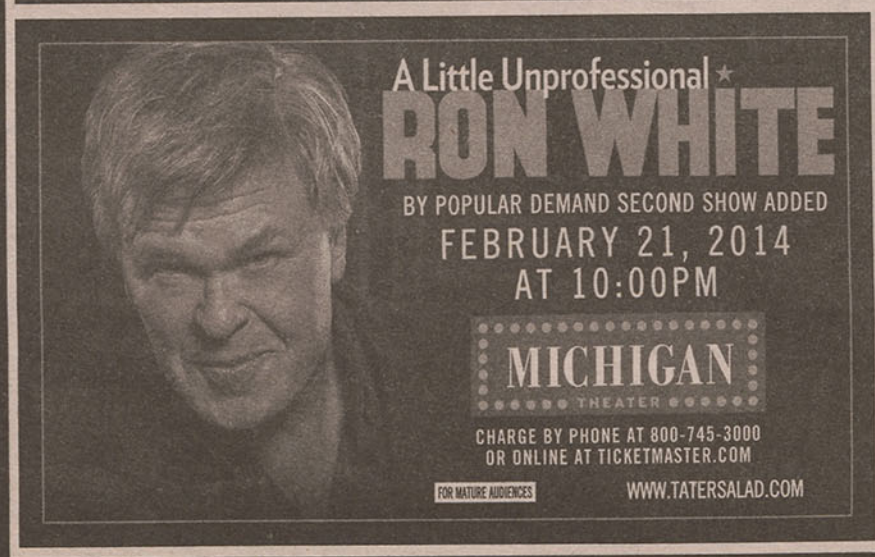

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Events at a Glance

Daily ***Events*** *listings begin on p.* ***47.*** ***Films:*** *p.* ***66.*** ***Galleries:*** *p.* ***53.*** ***Nightspots*** *begin on p.* ***44.***

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- "Wine, Women, & Song," Feb. 1
- Ariel Quartet, Feb. 5
- Kremerata Baltica chamber orchestra, Feb. 6
- Organist Aaron Tan, Feb. 7
- Organist Martin Jean, Feb. 9
- Orlando Consort (early music), Feb. 12
- "An Evening of Hindustani Classical Music," Feb. 13
- St. Lawrence String Quartet, Feb. 14
- Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 16
- Joshua Bell (violinist), Feb. 16
- Washtenaw Community Concert Band, Feb. 20
- St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Feb. 22
- "Equality Cabaret," Feb. 23
- Kaycee Ware Thomas (oboist) & Daniel Thomas (cellist), Feb. 23
- Dexter Community Orchestra, Feb. 23

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See ***Nightspots,*** *p. 44, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs*

- Gemini (acoustic duo), Feb. 2
- Barb Barton & Billy Brandt (singer-songwriters), Feb. 5
- Shari Kane & Dave Steele (acoustic guitar duo), Feb. 7
- Mischka Seo (jazz drummer), Feb. 7
- "One Night in Bamako," Feb. 7
- Mr. B (boogie-woogie pianist), Feb. 8
- Eric Comstock & Barbara Fasano (jazz), Feb. 9
- "The Love Hangover" (folk & rock), Feb. 15
- Joshua Breakstone (jazz guitarist), Feb. 16
- "Zappa Plays Zappa," Feb. 19
- Jennie DeVoe (singer-songwriter), Feb. 20
- Peter Mayer (singer-songwriter), Feb. 21
- Jazzistry annual "Rent Party," Feb. 22
- Ellen Rowe Quintet (jazz), Feb. 23
- Neoterica Flutes (avant-garde), Feb. 28

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- "Dandia Dhamaka" dance competition, Feb. 1
- *Hello Dolly!* (Burns Park Players), Feb. 1, 7, & 8
- *Next to Normal* (Civic Theatre), Feb. 1 & 2
- *County Line* (Performance Network), every Thurs.–Sun. through Feb. 16
- *Redwood Curtain* (Purple Rose), every Wed.–Sun.
- *Oliver!* (Encore), every Thurs.–Sun. beginning Feb. 6
- *Moving Pictures* (U-M Dance), Feb. 6–9
- *The Sound of Music* (Huron High), Feb. 7–9
- "An Evening of Scenes" (U-M Residential College), Feb. 7 & 8
- "The Play's the Thing" (Civic Theatre), Feb. 7–9
- *Rusalka* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Feb. 8
- *The Snow Queen* (Hoover Street Dance Co.), Feb. 9
- *Coriolanus* (National Theatre London broadcast), Feb. 9
- *The Shape of Things* (EMU Theater), Feb. 12–16
- *Three by Tenn* (U-M Residential College), Feb. 14 & 15
- Compagnie Kafig (dance), Feb. 14 & 15
- *Woyzeck* (U-M Residential College), Feb. 16
- *The Suit* (Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord), Feb. 19–22
- *Swan Lake* (Royal Opera House broadcast), Feb. 20
- *Romeo & Juliet* (U-M Musical Theatre), Feb. 20–23
- *Hay Fever* (U-M Theatre), Feb. 20–23
- *Things My Mother Taught Me* (Chelsea Area Players), Feb. 21–23
- "Kamikaze Theater" (U-M Residential College), Feb. 22
- *RMW(a)/RMW* (experimental dance), Feb. 26 & 27
- *Venus in Fur* (Performance Network), Feb. 27 & 28
- *O Say Can You See ...?* (U-M Theatre), Feb. 28

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic John F. O'Donnell, Feb. 1
- Comic Sean Patton, Feb. 1
- Comic Derick Lengwenus, Feb. 6–8
- Comic Tina Giorgi, Feb. 13–15
- Comic Ben Creed, Feb. 20–22
- Comic Ron White, Feb. 21
- Comic Mike Green, Feb. 27 & 28

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- The RoadShow Christian music festival, Feb. 1
- Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 31 & Feb. 1
- Chelsea Winter Carnival, Feb. 7–9
- Winter Fleece Fair, Feb. 15
- Train Show & Sale, Feb. 15 & 16
- Annual Storytelling Festival, Feb. 15 & 16
- Dawn Dance Weekend, Feb. 21–23
- Dance on Camera Festival, Feb. 22 & 23
- Gospelfest 2014, Feb. 22

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Novelist Charles Finch, Feb. 5
- WCBN-FM *Living Writers* live broadcast, Feb. 6
- Poet Diane Seuss, Feb. 6
- Poet Marianne Boruch, Feb. 13
- Poet Deborah Mitchell, Feb. 13
- Novelist Eric Shonkwiler, Feb. 17
- Poet Courtney Whittler, Feb. 18
- Curbside Splendor Reading, Feb. 18
- Poet Paisley Rekdal, Feb. 20

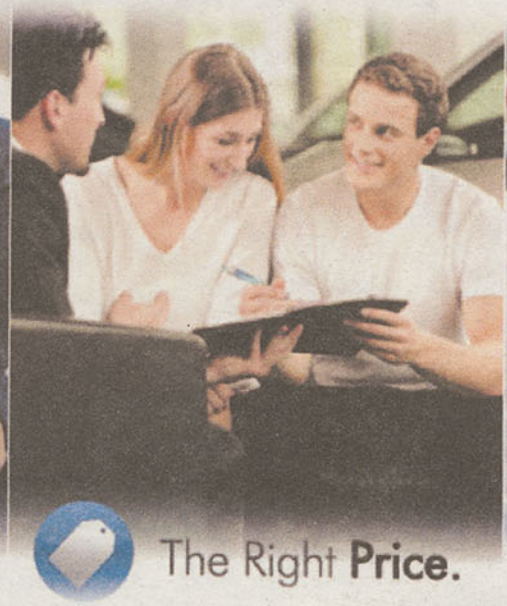
Family & Kids' Stuff

- *Dora's Pirate Adventure* (Skyline High), Feb. 1 & 2
- The Verve Pipe Kids Show, Feb. 9
- *Under the African Sky* (Wild Swan), Feb. 12 & 13
- *Jamie and Jordan* (Performance Network), Feb. 15
- The Kerfuffles, Feb. 20

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- "The Snake That Ate the Dinosaur," Feb. 15

The Right **Car.**



The Right **Price.**

The Right **Way.**

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Germain Audi of Ann Arbor

2014 Audi A4

$498 Lease*

MSRP $41,430. Manual Quattro Premium Plus. $1,995 due at signing (plus fees). 42 month lease, 10k miles per year. Plus tax, tag, title, and dealer fee. With approved credit through AFS. Take delivery by month end.

2014 Audi A6 2.0 Quattro

$625 Lease*

MSRP $52,190. $2,495 due at signing (Includes $625 acq fee) 42 month lease, 10K miles per year. Plus tax, tag, title, and dealer fee. With approved credit through AFS. Take delivery by month end.

www.AudiAnnArbor.com

Audi

Germain Volkswagen of Ann Arbor

2014 Jetta S

$149 Lease
36 Months
$2,349 due at signing

*Based on MSRP of $17,715 (including destination charges) for a 2014 Jetta S 2.0L with manual transmission, excluding title, tax, options and dealer fees. Excludes TDI® Clean Diesel and Hybrid models. Monthly payments total $5,364. Requires dealer contribution of $1,121.89, which could affect final negotiated transaction. Purchase option at lease end for $9,743.25. At lease end lessees responsible for $0.20/mile over 36,000 miles and excessive wear and tear.

2014 Passat 1.8T S

$199 Lease
36 Months
$2,349 due at signing

*Based on MSRP of $22,915.00 (including destination charges) for a 2014 Passat 1.8T S with automatic transmission, excluding title, tax, options and dealer fees. Excludes TDI® Clean Diesel models. Monthly payments total $7,164.00. Requires dealer contribution of $2,746.81 which could affect final negotiated transaction. Purchase option at lease end for $11,686.65. At lease end lessees responsible for $0.20/mile over 36,000 miles and excessive wear and tear.

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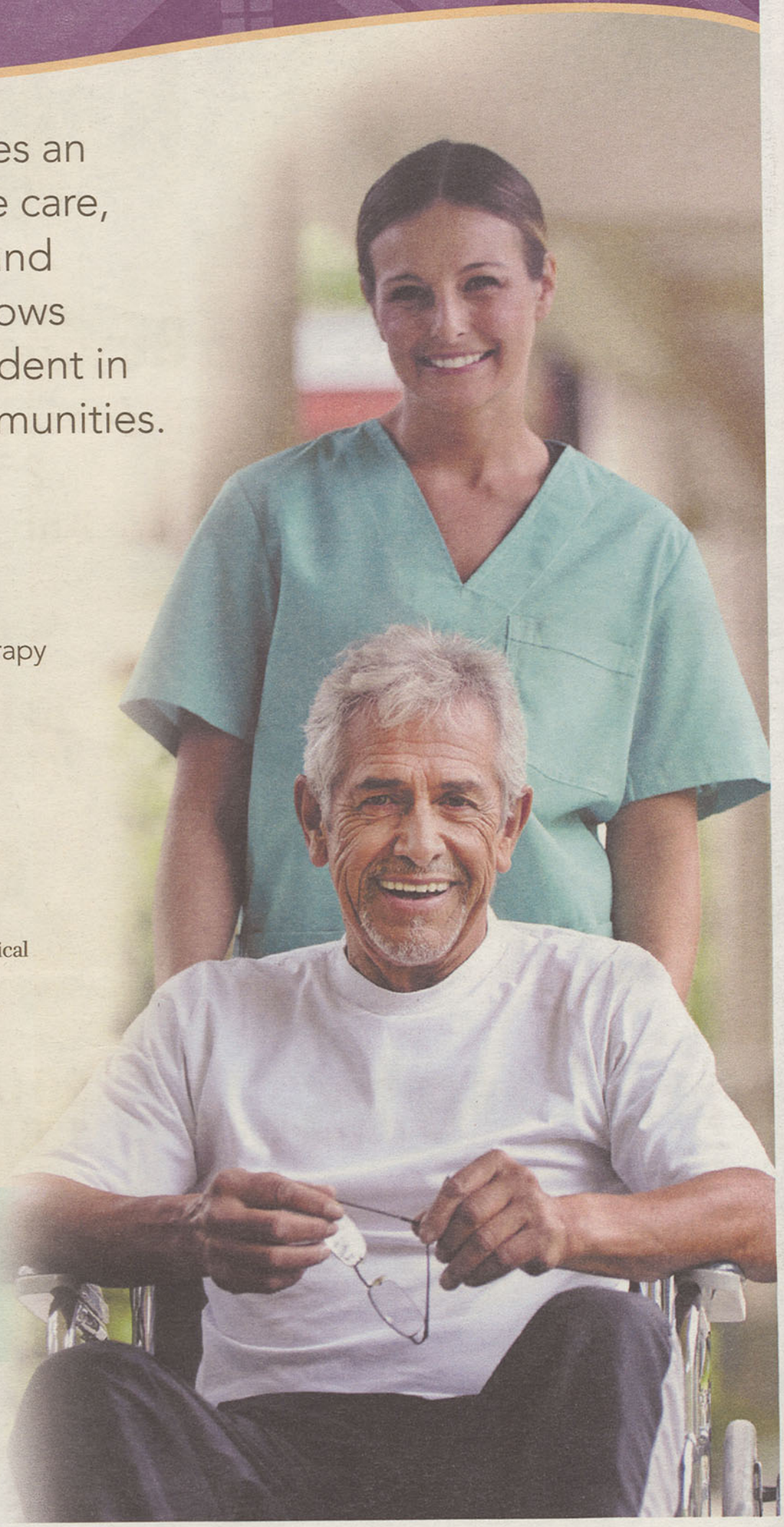

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- Much More

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